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GTA gets early taste of winter

WEATHER The first chills of winter created a flurry-filled day in the GTA yesterday and forced the thermometer into the negatives overnight. A surge of cold air that blew in early yesterday morning, created snow in the North Bay region that blew down to the GTA, said Mitch Meredith, meteorologist for Environment Canada. Flurries were reported at Buttonville, Toronto Island and Pearson Airports yesterday. In York region, where it snowed for most of the day, there were accumulations on cars and the sides of the roads.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Loyalty pg 27

Rewards galore, cash included

Automotive pg 34

Getting ready for winter

Small Business pg 12

Biz with pals can be risky

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Fashion

Revenko show

KEITH HENRY/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A model walks the runway for the Desperately Different show by Katya Revenko during L'Oreal Fashion Week yesterday in Toronto. **For fashion week schedule & coverage, see pg. 48**

Air is foul, foul is fair

Ontarians often misled about pollution levels: Watchdog

Ontario's air quality rating system is so flawed that urban dwellers are frequently told they are breathing safe air when it is actually riddled with pollutants, says the province's environmental watchdog.

In his annual report, environment commissioner Gord Miller said the Ministry of Environment's regional measurements to set the province's air quality index (AQI) ignore downtown streets where pollution is at its worst.

"The current reporting of air quality, based on the AQI, often leads Ontarians to believe that the air on the streets is very good when actually it is impaired," Miller said yesterday, after releasing his report at Queen's Park.

Miller said his office has been taking its own air readings in nine cities and discovered that on some days when media reported "good" air for joggers and cyclists based on ministry information, downtown readings were actually "very poor."

Environment Minister John Gerretsen said he hadn't read the report yet, but "if there are some suggestions as to where these monitoring stations should be set up, we are certainly going to take a look at that. The reporting we do should be as accurate as possible."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Deaths

- Air pollution contributes to almost 9,500 deaths in the province each year, according to recent data from the Ontario Medical Association.

Cams for gun owners

A novel gun amnesty program is encouraging gun owners to start shooting.

With a camera.

Pixels for Pistols, is a joint endeavour with the 26-store Henry's camera chain, based on Church Street, and Toronto police.

For four weeks, Toronto residents who hand over a gun, legal or not, will receive a digital camera, either a Nikon Coolpix S52 or a Coolpix P60, listed at $230 and $190 on the Henry's website. The offer includes photography lessons.

Henry's is asking that no one show up at a store with a gun.

Toronto police advise those wanting to turn in a firearm to call 416-808-2222 to arrange pick up.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Anonymous tip leads to missing children
Two children, 6 and 2 years old, who disappeared from their west-end Toronto home while their parents were in jail have been found. Their uncle received a call from an unknown person directing him to a local mall, Const. Tony Vella of Toronto police said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local

Crown outlines Creba case

Jane Creba may have died while crouching to protect herself from flying bullets as a gunfight broke out between young men on a crowded Yonge Street, Crown prosecutor Kerry Hughes told a jury yesterday as she outlined her case against J.S.R., a youth charged with second-degree murder in the 15-year-old schoolgirl's death. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Tomorrow's Metro

Food

Barb Holland explores the warm comforts of slow cooking with pulled pork.

metronews.ca
What's online today.

Watch the latest on the E. coli outbreak at metronews.ca/canada
Check movie showtimes, trailers and reviews at metronews.ca/movies
Play online Sudoku and Word Roundup at metronews.ca/play

Lotteries

Ontario Pick 3: 2 3 1; **Ontario Pick 4:** 1 3 8 8
Encore: 9966342; **Daily Keno:** 2, 3, 6, 10, 11, 13, 21, 30, 37, 39, 42, 44, 48, 50, 53, 55, 57, 58, 62, 67. These results are not official.

Group targets toilets

Toronto may well be poised for a toilet revolution. And Ari Grief, a Toronto filmmaker, activist and founder of the Canadian Toilet Organization, wants to lead the charge.

Yesterday marked a significant step in bringing the battle for clean and accessible public toilets closer to home, with the official launch of the CTO. The launch took place at the United Nations University's International Network on Water, Environment and Health site at McMaster University in Hamilton.

This year is the International Year of Sanitation and UNU is hosting talks from top sanitation experts from around the world.

Grief will be taking Jack Sim, founder of the World Toilet Organization, around the GTA to check out our latest toilet technology. Their first stop will be Toronto design company Cooler Solutions, a leader in sustainable design toilets. Their toilet can hold seven to 10 days of waste. When full, part of it can be removed and pushed into the ground, to bury it.

"The fact that after use it closes (and) fully sanitizes itself is really appealing."
Kyp Perikleous

Toronto plans to install self-cleaning public toilets. The first one is scheduled to be installed next year, then two will be installed each year after that for a total of 20.

"The fact that after use it closes (and) fully sanitizes itself is really appealing," said Kyp Perikleous, manager of the street furniture unit for the City of Toronto. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

KILLED Const. Randy Tallon, 50, a 20-year-veteran of the Toronto police who dedicated his career to keeping the roads safe was killed this weekend after an alleged drunk driver rear-ended his pick-up truck as he travelled in the U.S.

CHARGED Former Liberal MP and one-time mayoral candidate John Nunziata has been charged with assault after what he describes as an altercation with his ex-wife's boyfriend. Toronto Police confirmed yesterday only that Nunziata was charged with assault and released pending a court appearance Nov. 26.

FEES The City of Toronto now says it has collected $130 million from its land transfer tax since the levy came into effect Feb. 1. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Friends, kin mourn slain teen

Sorrow was etched on the face of Ramkaran Dharamdial yesterday as he watched pallbearers carry away the casket of his "storybook son."

Rajiv Dharamdial, 14, was stabbed to death Oct. 14 in Brampton as he walked home from school. His last words were pleas for help to a 9-1-1 operator but, by the time paramedics arrived, he couldn't be saved.

The Bernardo Funeral Home in Etobicoke was packed with his friends, schoolmates and grieving family members. Sadness filled the air as the traditional Hindu funeral service was preceded by ceremonial songs of devotion.

Those who spoke about the Sandalwood Heights Secondary School student described a loving, humorous teenager who loved music and fast cars.

Rajiv's slaying, for which no suspect has been arrested, was the 24th of the year for Peel and the fourth in the space of a few days. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Family and friends attend the funeral in Etobicoke yesterday for Rajiv Dharamdial, 14, who was stabbed to death last week.

Missing boy's dad fears worst

Steve Crisps' best hope for his missing 15-year-old son is that the lad is hiding out in a luxury cottage somewhere northeast of Barrie.

But his worst fear is that Brandon, a Grade-10 student, has ventured too far into the fantasy world of a video game to which he was "addicted" and has run into trouble.

"I'm worried he has met someone online through this game. It could be organized crime or someone involved in Internet gambling. Pedophiles can stalk kids through these games," the tormented father said last night.

Brandon ran away from his family's home in the north end of Barrie nine days ago and has not been seen or heard from since. He left home following a dispute with his parents over the Xbox online war game, Call of Duty 4, which he spent countless hours and days playing over the last 18 months. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Clans

- Brandon's three best buddies from school were also members of his "Call of Duty Clan." These friends told Steve that Brandon may be part of another clan.

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Back on the grocery shelf

Products from the Maple Leaf Foods plant at the centre of a listeriosis outbreak have been approved for public distribution. The producer shut down a meat processing plant in Toronto and the plant underwent an intensive sanitization. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Nurses demand better protection

It's been almost a year since the Ministry of Labour ordered the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health to create a safer workplace. But at a press conference yesterday, the Ontario Nurses' Association said staff there are still being verbally abused, spat on, punched and, in one recent case, sexually assaulted.

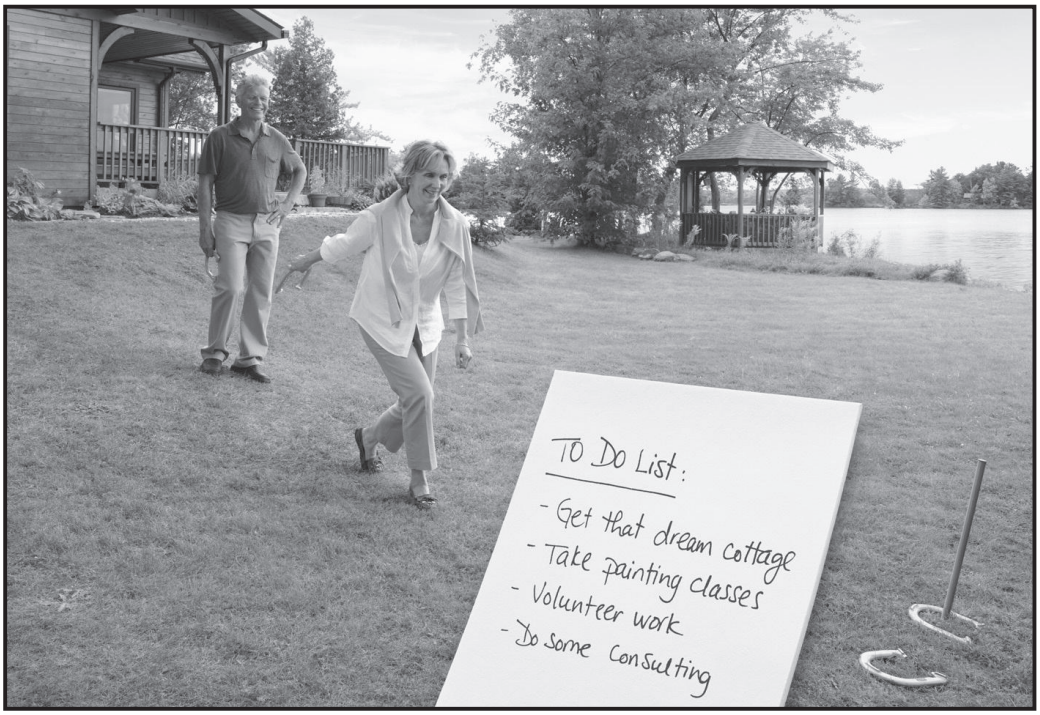
"When is (CAMH) going to develop the violence prevention policy that the Ministry of Labour ordered?" asked ONA president Linda Haslam-Stroud, in reference to safety requirements set out by the ministry in November 2007. "Enough is enough."

According to both CAMH and the Ministry of Labour, CAMH has already done just that. "We got the policy developed and rolled it out in January, and ensured our staff were trained on that policy," said Eric Preston, vice president of human resources and organizational development at CAMH. "That allowed us to comply with (the) Ministry of Labour order."

"Enough is enough." Linda Haslam-Stroud

Ministry spokesperson Bruce Skeaff said CAMH complied with another order to "take every precaution reasonable."

Danielle Latulippe-Larmond, ONA local president says she is shocked the ministry said they've complied. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**



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Life-saving machines coming to public transit

EMERGENCY CARE In Union Station's cavernous upper hall, the small blue machine sputtered to life: "Begin by removing all clothing from the patient's chest," it said in a detached, robotic voice.

Listening to the defibrillator in front of reporters, Sheryl Jackson, manager of the Toronto EMS "Cardiac Safe City" program said, as if to children: "I'm going to cut the clothing."

She snipped away a dummy's golf shirt and proceeded to show just how simple it is to operate a "Mikey" public access defibrillator, 100 of which are to be installed on GO trains and in GO stations across the GTA.

Three of those machines will be at Union Station and one will be in the GO bus terminal.

The move is part of a partnership between GO Transit, Toronto EMS and The Mikey Network, a private organization dedicated to funding a dispersed network of "Mikey" defibrillators in public spaces. The defibrillators dictate instructions through to CPR. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Public safety

- Toronto EMS already oversees a network of 550 public "defibs" in police and fire stations, community centres, city hall and Metro Hall, and other areas.
- They respond to roughly 2,000 cardiac arrests each year, 18 per cent of which occur in public spaces.

Class cap needs wiggle room?

EDUCATION A Toronto trustee will be asking the board to lobby for more flexibility when it comes to implementing the provincial class cap in the primary grades.

"I'll be bringing forward a motion to ask the board to essentially appeal to the province to create more flexibility for local schools," said Josh Matlow of the Toronto District School Board.

One of Matlow's schools was facing a massive reorganization to meet the 20-student class cap from junior kindergarten to Grade 3. Boards must have 90 per cent of classes at that cap, and are allowed to have 10 per cent of classes with up to 23 students.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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booth the telephone booth
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Canadian musician gets jail time

Joseph Tang, a Canadian violinist convicted of posing as a broker and swindling San Francisco Bay Area violin collectors out of thousands of dollars, has been sentenced to more than three years in prison. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Cash or credit only

Customers across the country wanting to pay with debit cards at stores using card-swipe terminals supplied by the Royal Bank were forced to use cash or use credit cards yesterday morning after a technical glitch.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Former Green Party leader Jim Harris looks on as Green Party Leader Elizabeth May speaks yesterday about electoral reform. Her party received no seats with seven per cent of votes cast.

Green leader joins activists to push for electoral reform

Election reform advocates say millions of votes were lost in the recent federal election because the voting system is unfair.

The group Fair Vote Canada says the country's antiquated, first-past-the-post system punished large blocks of voters, leaving them without proper representation in Parliament.

Green Leader Elizabeth May joined the group today in calling on the main federal parties to make electoral reform a priority.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Torture inquiry slams RCMP

Three Muslim-Canadian men claimed vindication if not victory after a long-awaited inquiry report partly blamed Canadian officials for their detention and torture in the Middle East.

"I want to be able to live my life again as normal as any Canadian citizen."
Muayyed Nureddin, Canadian detained in Syria

"It clears our names," said Abdullah Almalki, a communications engineer detained by Syria in 2002 for nearly two years. "It clearly vindicates us." Smiles in front of the cameras did not come easily.

Despite being excluded from the nearly two-year inquiry, Almalki, Ahmad El Maati, and Muayyed Nureddin clearly rejoiced in the report released by former Supreme Court judge Frank Iacobucci.

Iacobucci blamed RCMP and CSIS agents who tagged the men with "inflammatory" labels such as Islamic extremist or "imminent threat" and shared that information with foreign agencies, sometimes without the proper cautions about its unreliability, or prohibitions against distribution to other countries.

The report also slams Foreign Affairs officials for failures to provide quick and effective consular services to the detainees, and in one case failing to flag an allegation of torture when it surfaced to Canada's foreign affairs minister.

Nureddin, whose English is more halting, said "my life was ruined."

"I want the government to apologize. I want to be able to live my life again as normal as any Canadian citizen."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Name new head quickly: Chief

It was never envisaged Justice Harry LaForme would rule the Indian Residential Schools Truth and Reconciliation Commission with absolute authority, says Phil Fontaine, National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations.

A picture emerged yesterday of LaForme ruling the three-person commission with an iron will, and according to one source, even demanded to be called 'your honour' by his two colleagues.

LaForme, a native and Ontario Court of Appeals justice, suddenly resigned yesterday as commissioner chair, citing differences with the two commissioners. Fontaine said the emphasis should be on replacing him as soon as possible. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Liberal leaders agree to play nice in contest

POLITICS Michael Ignatieff and Bob Rae have struck an informal non-aggression pact in a bid to avoid turning the coming Liberal leadership contest into another divisive showdown between the two perceived front-runners.

Rae said yesterday he and his lifelong friend and university roommate, Ignatieff, have reached an understanding that the race must be kept civil and respectful.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

E.Coli scare shows better response

HEALTH Better communication and availability of information, legacies of the tainted-water tragedy in Walkerton, Ont., helped improve the response to an E. coli outbreak linked to a Harvey's restaurant in northern Ontario, health and civic officials said yesterday.

But the current outbreak also demonstrates that gaps in Canada's food-safety net persist.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

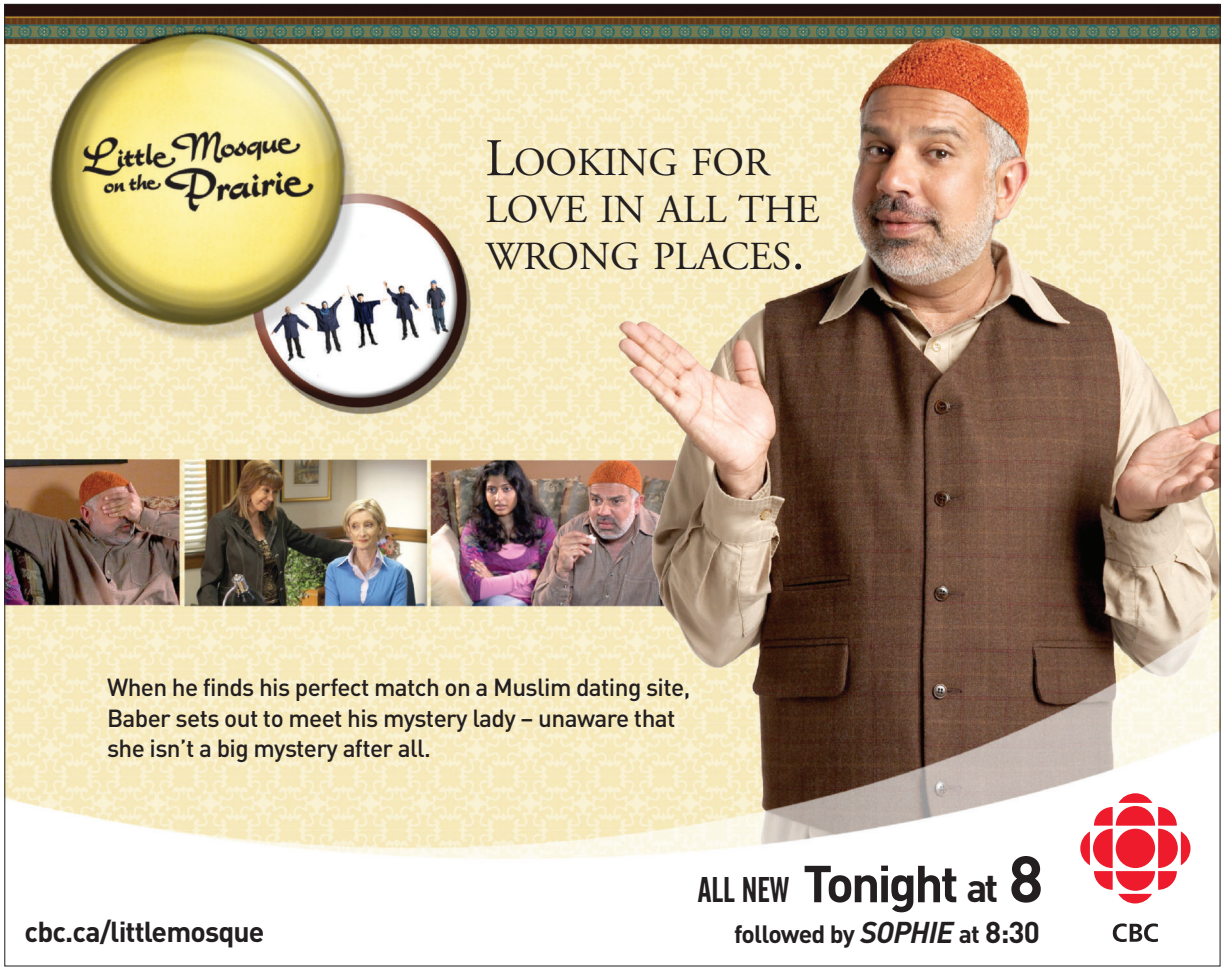
News in brief

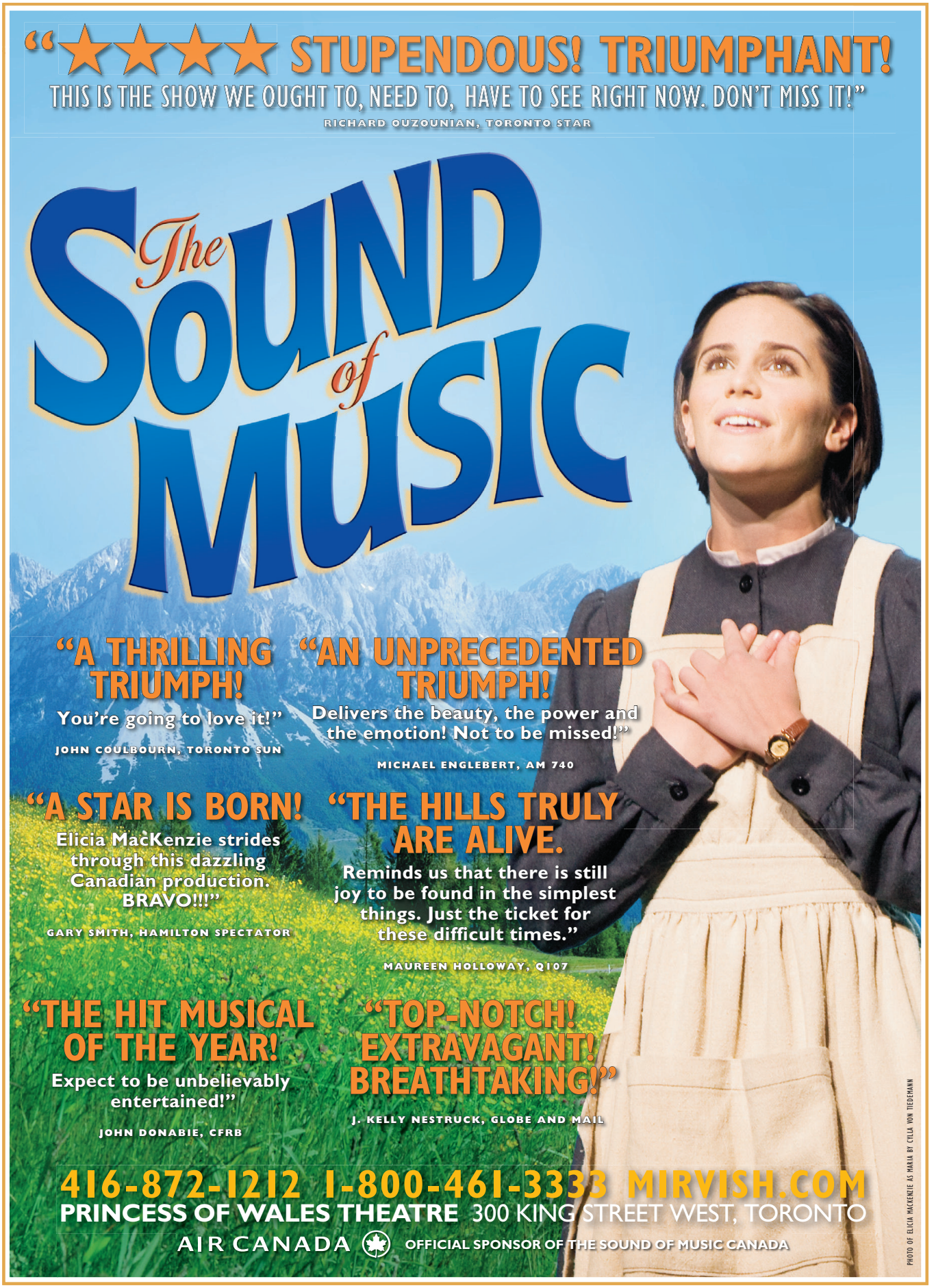
CRIME Hells Angels members are co-operating with police investigating a fire which destroyed the biker gang's bunker in Quebec.

ATTACK An exotic African snake bit a Winnipeg man in the face. He was taken to hospital and given antiserum.

ENVIRONMENT Canadian environmentist Maude Barlow has been appointed senior water adviser to the United Nations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Comment & Views

Comment

Castles in sand will sink

TheWestView

Tell me what's wrong with this picture. In my neighbourhood, a modest, two-bedroom, postwar bungalow goes up for sale — and sells for $1 million. The guy who buys it tears it down, puts up a splendid 5.5 thousand square foot castle and puts it on the market for $2.3 million.

It's still sitting there, unsold, six months later.

There was a For Rent sign on it for a while, but I guess they thought it sent the wrong message, so they took it down.

People stop and peer in the windows as they walk their dogs. They've never seen anything like it before. It's a completely new kind of folly and they find it interesting.

But every day I get up, look out the front window at the Museum to Excess and the bad feeling grows: OMG, this is crazy. Million dollar teardowns! Palaces on poky suburban streets! We're gonna crash!

There are some who don't buy the argument that the U.S. real estate meltdown will blow the roof down in Canada. But the facts state otherwise: The average price of a home declined 6.2 per cent across the country in September.

The Canadian Real Estate Association reports that declines in Canada's most expensive housing markets will pull down the national average for the rest of this year and into 2009. "Canada's most expensive housing markets" include the Vancouver street where I live, but before you start gloating, Rest of Canada, it also includes Calgary and Toronto, and sooner or later Montreal, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Ottawa, Halifax … did I miss your place?

These days, not even a Left Coast condomaniac is going to pay $800K for an 800 square foot condo.

The average price of homes in Vancouver is still a ridiculous $535,598. But that's 8 per cent less than last year, and perhaps even more significant, sales are running 43 per cent below last year. What's that loud popping sound?

Those of us sitting on a pile of shrinking equity mumble denials like worry beads: Vancouver is the No. 1 city in the world according to the Economist or whatever … the 2010 Olympics will save us … everyone wants to live here. The Bank of Canada will save us, keeping that easy money pipeline open. Etc. But as Bertold Brecht said: Those who are still laughing have not yet heard the bad news.

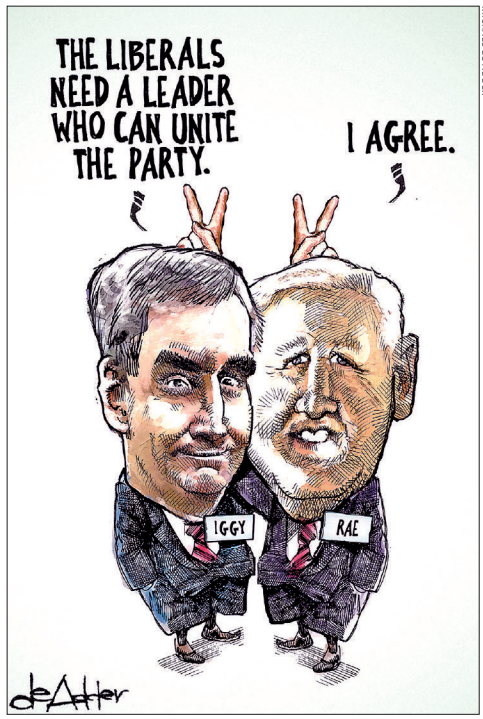
These days, not even a Left Coast condomaniac is going to pay $800K for an 800 square foot condo (yep, that's $1,000 a square foot) – even if it does come with granite counter tops!

Maybe never again.

What was that Jimi Hendrix song? Castles made of sand sink into the sea … eventually.

I think "eventually" just happened — right across the street.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist, owner of Sullivan Media consulting, and Editor in Chief of Orato.com, the citizen news website.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Views

Celebrate entrepreneurs' hard work

By BECKY REUBER

It's Small Business Week in Canada, and a great opportunity to celebrate over one million Canadians who own and manage a small business. These businesses create jobs and innovative products and services. They employ roughly half of the private sector work force, and spend proportionally more on Research and Development than their much larger counterparts. Many are proving to be competitive in foreign markets. In fact, Canadian small businesses account for roughly 20 per cent of Canadian exports.

Not only are small businesses good for our economy, they are also beneficial to the entrepreneurs who start them. They can provide income, exciting challenges, and the chance to be your own boss. However, during Small Business Week, this week, it is important to remember that there are also costs associated with being a small business owner.

Even more striking is that one in three self-employed Canadians work more than 50 hours a week, compared with one in 20 Canadians who are employees.

One cost is that you have to work really hard. Self-employed Canadians, on average, work six hours more each week than the rest of us: Even more striking is that one in three self-employed Canadians work more than 50 hours a week, compared with one in twenty Canadians who are employees.

These long working hours can take their toll. Many business owners report feeling isolated. They can't sit around the water cooler and shoot the breeze with their co-workers the way that employees can. Their peers are entrepreneurs working long hours in other businesses and it's difficult to find the time to socialize. They are around people all day, but most of these people are customers, suppliers, or employees who want something from them, and so they're always on.

Finally, many small business owners have money worries. Investors aren't that easy to come by, and most entrepreneurs use their own funds to start and manage their businesses. Two-thirds of Canadian small business owners finance their businesses with their personal savings. Other frequently used sources of financing are personal credit cards, personal loans and personal lines of credit. Entrepreneurs continually need to balance the need for more funds, to fuel business growth, on the one hand, and the riskiness of taking on more debt, on the other.

Many small business owners feel in a more precarious position during this year's Small Business Week than they have in past years, due to the recent financial crisis. Many of them worry that their customer base could erode and that funds for hoped-for innovation and improvements will be difficult to come by. This is a great time for you to show your appreciation for their contributions to the Canadian economy by supporting small businesses in your local community.

Becky Reuber is Professor of Strategic Management at the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management where she teaches Entrepreneurship and researches Canadian entrepreneurs' growth strategies.

Letters

Sarah Botham, HAMILTON

Andrew Cohen's column "May pays for mistakes" (Oct 16) says Green Party Leader Elizabeth May made a mistake in choosing her riding, Central Nova. While it was clearly a hard place to run, why should she kick out a perfectly good candidate in a Green leaning riding just because it makes it easier for her? She wants people to vote for her because they believe in her party platform – not just because she was the next best choice in an "anything but Harper" riding. As for saying she "wasn't even close" to winning, considering the Green candidate in Central Nova got less than 2 per cent in the 2006 election, May did incredibly well — increasing the Green vote in that riding by more than 150 per cent.

Why should anyone listen to May, since she only has 6.8 per cent of the vote? That 6.8 per cent is almost one million votes.

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U.S. military drops terror charges against five Guantanamo prisoners
The U.S. military abruptly dropped charges yesterday against five Guantanamo Bay detainees after a prosecutor charged the military was suppressing evidence that could have helped clear them. But despite the decision, there are no plans to free the men. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

India launches moon mission

India launched its first lunar mission early today, joining an elite group of countries with the scientific know-how to reach outer space. The Chandrayaan-1 is being sent on a two-year mission to map the lunar surface. Chandrayaan means "Moon Craft" in ancient Sanskrit. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Obama's grandma may not live to see election

Barack Obama's 85-year-old grandmother is said to be gravely ill after falling and breaking her hip recently, and some reports suggest that she might not live to see the results of the Nov. 4 election.

Barack Obama is cancelling nearly all his campaign events tomorrow and Friday to fly to Hawaii to visit his ailing grandmother, Madelyn Payne Dunham.

She gave a young Obama a place to call home while his mother travelled the world. When he needed money for school, she went without new clothes to help pay his tuition.

And when Obama decided to seek the Democratic presidential nomination, Dunham provided the "Kansas heartland" pedigree he needed to appeal to conservative white voters and a personal anecdote about racial prejudice that helped the man with the foreign name and Ivy League resumé connect with African-Americans. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Afghan journalism student gets 20 years

COURT An Afghan appeals court overturned a death sentence for a journalism student accused of blasphemy and instead sentenced him yesterday to 20 years in prison.

The death sentence against 24-year old Parwez Kambakhsh came to symbolize Afghanistan's slide toward an ultraconservative view on religious and individual freedoms.

Prosecutors alleged that Kambakhsh disrupted classes by asking questions about women's rights under Islam. They said he illegally distributed an article he printed off the Internet that asks why Islam does not modernize to give women equal rights. He also allegedly scribbled his own comments on the paper. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S.A. Training for police dogs

MARY ANN CHASTAIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Richland County K-9 deputy Gerald Atkinson is in a protective suit as he is attacked by Chico, a Belgian Malinois, during a training exercise yesterday in Columbia, S.C. Some 40 police canine teams from the U.S. will attend the week-long training.

News in brief

RECALL An American company is voluntarily recalling nearly 1.6 million versions of its drop-side cribs after getting reports of two infant deaths due to suffocation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bomb blast in India kills 14

ATTACK A bomb exploded outside a training centre for police commandos in northeast India yesterday, killing at least 14 people and wounding 20 more, police said. The bomb was apparently planted on a motorcycle and placed outside the centre in the city of Imphal, said the city's police chief. No one claimed responsibility for the blast. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Somalis free hijacked vessel

RESCUE A Somali official says gunmen have freed a hijacked Indian vessel and its 13 crew members yesterday after a battle with pirates off the African country's coast. No crew members were wounded. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Sun Life shares slide on losses, impacts

Shares of Sun Life Financial Corp. fell 13 per cent to $29.27 yesterday after the firm posted its first loss since 2000, blaming turmoil in global capital markets. It included $636 million in "credit market impacts" from tanking U.S. banks. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Business in brief

LAWSUIT Bell's efforts to cut costs has prompted Bell-branded retailers to sue the company for $200 million over reduced commissions. They say Bell undercut their competitive advantage by selling to non-exclusive retailers and lowering prices.

LAYOFFS Yahoo Inc. will fire at least 1,500 workers, or 10 per cent of its workforce, to cope with a slumping economy that dented its third-quarter profit and turned up heat on management after turning down a sale to Microsoft Corp.

ECONOMY More European banks may fail as government cash dries up and the region's economy grinds to a near-halt next year, the IMF warned, noting that banks are under intense pressure to reduce high leverage. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bank of Canada cuts rate

Canada's big banks passed on the full value of the Bank of Canada's quarter percentage point interest rate cut yesterday, making it cheaper for consumers and businesses to borrow.

Amid signs global economic conditions are worsening, Canada's central bank cut its trendsetting overnight rate for the second time in as many weeks, though not by as much as investors had hoped.

The rate cut announcement and the bank's gloomy outlook pushed the sagging Canadian dollar and stocks dramatically lower.

"The outlook for growth and inflation in Canada is now more uncertain than usual," the bank said in a statement after reducing its overnight rate to 2.25 per cent.

> **"The outlook for growth and inflation in Canada is now more uncertain than usual"**
> Bank of Canada

Canada's big banks followed suit late in the day, cutting their prime lending rates, the basis for many loans, to 4 per cent.

Even the two big banks that failed to pass on the full benefit of the half-point cut on Oct. 8 moved to match their rivals this time.

Investors hoping the central bank would again cut it a half percentage point were disappointed, even though the central bank clearly signalled it could cut further at its next rate setting meeting on Dec. 9.

Combined with falling commodity prices and weak earnings reports out of the U.S., the weaker-than-expected rate cut helped drive the Toronto Stock Exchange down.

The S&P composite index fell 455.60 points, or 4.44 per cent, to close at 9.795.80, ending a two-day winning streak.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

'No money in the world' can save truck plant

AUTOS Canadian Auto Workers president Ken Lewenza says Daimler Trucks officials have told him that "no money in the world" could change the fate of a plant the company plans to shut down in St. Thomas, Ont., next March.

Federal and provincial politicians who represent the area have said there could be government funds made available to retool the plant, but Lewenza said Chris Patterson, president and CEO of Daimler Trucks North America wouldn't bite.

"(He) was pretty clear that all the investment in the world at this particular time can't produce a truck that would sell in this market," Lewenza said, adding that "they don't have anything today that would increase market share," regardless of funding available. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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By the numbers

Seventy per cent of small businesses that enter the marketplace survive for one full year; half of them survive for three years. NEWS CANADA

Small Business

A new venture

The top three reasons people start a business are to leave the corporate rat race; to make a living after graduating or immigrating to Canada; and to make a living between jobs or to start a business over 55.

NEWS CANADA

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE BOMBA, STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

‘Everyone warned us against it’

If life can come full-circle by the time you’re 30, then it certainly did for “friendpreneurs” Eryn Green and Tamar Wagman, who met as infants in nursery school, and coincidentally teamed up to launch their baby food business, Sweetpea, in 2004.

“I never thought in a million years that we would go into business together,” says Wagman. “We didn’t sit there in nursery school writing up a business plan!”

Still, when the inspiration hit, it seemed a natural fit for their skills: Green had just spent five years writing business plans for other companies at Ernst & Young, and Wagman, whose background is in hospitality, had just had a baby and was frustrated she couldn’t find healthy and flavourful baby food.

Furthermore, they were both at a crossroads: Green wanted to work for herself and Wagman had just quit her job with a catering company and was looking for new opportunities.

Over lunch, Green told Wagman she was looking for a new challenge, and Wagman suggested: “You should make baby food, because what’s out there is horrible.” Wagman said she and her husband, a chef, were making their own and freezing it in ice cube trays. “Then a light bulb went off over the table,” says Wagman. The two started researching, and knew instinctively the market was ripe for a frozen, organic, preservative-free baby food in one-ounce cubes, so parents could pop out the exact amount they needed. Still, the two were surprised when their idea was applauded by friends, while the notion of pals going into business together was not.

Sure, going into business with your friends may seem like a great idea, but there are risks to consider, experts warn.

“Everyone warned us against it,” says Wagman.

In fact, going into business with friends can be problematic, experts say.

“It can sometimes get in the way of making good business decisions,” says Elspeth Murray, who teaches entrepreneurship at Queen’s Business School. Especially, she adds, if it prevents you from making “hard decisions” about friends or family who may not be up for the task.

“When you complicate the business with friends or family, all of a sudden it’s not just business relations that are at stake, but friends, Thanksgiving dinner, the family network — whatever,” she warns.

“One of the biggest questions is: How will you maintain the friendship if the business doesn’t go well, or the business if the friendship doesn’t?” she asks. “You have to have that conversation up front.”

Stewart Thornhill, who teaches entrepreneurship at the University of Western Ontario’s Richard Ivey School of Business, agrees. Friends entering a business are too often like couples in love: “The last thing they want is a messy legal document,” he says. “They’re starting out with rose-coloured glasses.”

But to be successful, the partners need to spell out what will happen in each eventuality — from how one partner will exit the business, to how a buyout would work, to tie-breaking clauses.

There are plenty of business problems that can stem from friendship, warns Becky Reuber, professor of strategic management at the University of Toronto’s Rotman School of Management.

In the end, “friendpreneurships” can be risky, Reuber says: ”It’s everything you would have to worry about when partnering with someone who isn’t a friend, plus the friends stuff. It works best if people are at the same life stages, have a demographic compatibility, and complementary skills,” she says.

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Singletary named Niners coach

Mike Singletary officially took over as head coach of the San Francisco 49ers on Tuesday, less than a day after the organization fired Mike Nolan. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

Canseco sorry for snitching

Jose Canseco says he's sorry for naming names of fellow baseball players who used steroids. During Monday's A&E documentary, Jose Canseco: The Last Shot, the former slugger says his anger at Major League Baseball prompted him to make the accusations in his 2005 book. "If I could meet with Mark McGwire and these players, I definitely would apologize to them," Canseco said, according to the New York Daily News. "They were my friends. I admired them. I respected them." METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Would they let it happen?

Maple Leafs say talk of second team in Toronto just speculation

The Maple Leafs are dismissing talk of a second NHL team in Toronto as little more than speculation. Richard Peddie, president and CEO of Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment, had little to say about a report in yesterday's Globe and Mail suggesting NHL governors are talking informally about placing a second team in Canada's largest city.

Jim Balsillie's name has come up regarding a second NHL franchise in Toronto.

Without rejecting the idea out of hand, Peddie said any sort of reaction to such a proposal would only come once his club's board was given a league recommendation on the matter.

That doesn't mean the Maple Leafs are burying their hands in the sand about the issue. Bouts of speculation about another team moving into Southern Ontario seems to be routine these days, and it's caught MLSE's attention.

"I think we're mindful of all trends and part of our job is to plan long term and of course we try to be cognizant of all issues and opportunities and start contemplating what the necessary resolution has to be," Peddie said in an interview.

"But that's for everything, from CBA to new broadcast deals, just anything. We're a large company and we always have a lot of things coming up and we're always trying to be proactive."

The NHL did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Canadian businessman Jim Balsillie made a well-publicized attempt to purchase and move the Nashville Predators to Hamilton in the spring of 2007. While that deal fell through, talk of the region's ability to support another NHL team has persisted.

There are differing opinions on what type of impact that would have on the Leafs. Some believe the club's monopoly and die-hard fan base would not suffer one iota, while others think the team's jaded supporters would be quick to switch allegiances.

"I'd have to wait, I don't want to speculate," said Peddie. "When and if the NHL brings the board a recommendation, we'll have a point of view at that point and time."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CANADIAN PRESS/FRANK GUNN

Curtis Joseph reacts as the Anaheim Ducks' Corey Perry celebrates his game winning overtime shootout goal last night.

Another OTL for Leafs

NHL RESULT

Anaheim 3 Toronto 2 (SO)

DUCKS VS TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS

THE SKINNY: The Leafs lose their fifth straight, and suffer their third shootout loss in four games. The Ducks won for just the sixth time in their last 21 games against the Maple Leafs.

THE POSITIVE: Nik Antropov scored both goals for the Maple Leafs. The Ducks failed to register a shot in the third period and saw the Maple Leafs tie the game with 52.8 seconds left in regulation.

THE GAMBLE: Ron Wilson inserted backup goalie Curtis Joseph for the shootout after Vesa Toskala played the entire game, but the move didn't pay off. Anaheim shooters Corey Perry and Teemu Selanne each beat Joseph.

THE NEXT GAME: The Leafs travel to Boston on Thursday.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Former doormats ready to battle it out

WORLD SERIES Worst in baseball to World Series winner.

The Tampa Bay Rays can become the first team in the majors to complete the ultimate fast turnaround. Doormats no more, they'll have the swagger of a pennant-winner when they play the Philadelphia Phillies starting Wednesday night.

It will be a World Series of contrasts that opens at Tropicana Field tonight: North versus South. Old versus New. Rest versus rust. Beloved versus belittled. Well, both have been disparaged over the years.

The frustrated Phillies have been around since 1883 but the losingest team in the history of U.S. major leagues has had just one title to celebrate, back in 1980. The Rays? The franchise didn't start play until 1998, and didn't have a winning season until this year.

"We've proved doubters wrong this entire time," said Rays pitcher Matt Garza.

After going from 66-96 last year to 97-65 this season, Tampa Bay has a bit of an aura. While the Phillies opened the season with the 13th-highest payroll in the major leagues at $98 million US, the Rays were 29th at $44 million US, ahead of only Florida.

Even the general managers are a contrast.

While the Phillies' GM is 71-year-old Pat Gillick, who put together Toronto teams that won World Series titles in 1992 and 1993, Tampa Bay's executive vice president for baseball operations is 31-year-old Andrew Friedman, a former Bear Stearns analyst.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/CHRIS O'MEARA

Rays manager Joe Maddon, right, watches batting practice with Jason Bartlett at Tropicana Field Tuesday. The Philadelphia Phillies will meet the Tampa Bay Rays in Game 1 of the World Series tonight.

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Lilja has appendectomy

Detroit Red Wings defenceman Andreas Lilja underwent a successful procedure to remove his appendix yesterday. Lilja is scoreless in five games thus far in 2008-09. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Geography out the window?

CFL's playoff oddities could result in all-Alberta Grey Cup

YorkReport

The CFL can often be the Complicated Football League, you know, and one of the reasons is its unusual playoff format.

I won't get into complete details here because it's, well, too complicated, but there's at least a reasonable chance the CFL's Grey Cup game in Montreal next month could actually involve two teams from the same province.

Yep, because of the CFL's complicated playoff formula, we could see the Calgary Stampeders and Edmonton Eskimos clashing helmets in the league's championship game Nov. 23.

This would be awfully weird, of course.

Edmonton would be representing the Eastern Division. Which raises this question:

Huh?

One of the most appealing qualities of the Grey Cup tilt is that it traditionally produces a geographic rivalry, with a genuine East-West matchup.

Because the CFL's Western teams are so superior this season, however, the division's last-place team will cross over for the Eastern semi-final at Winnipeg. And, if it beats the mediocre Blue Bombers, it would meet the Alouettes in Montreal in the Eastern final Nov. 17. And, if it defeats the Als, this Western team would actually qualify as the Eastern representative for the Grey Cup.

With two weeks remaining in the regular season, the red-hot Stamps are atop the West with 22 points and are Cup favourites.

The B.C. Lions and Saskatchewan Roughriders trail the Stamps with 20 points each, and the Esks would at this point qualify as the crossover team into the Eastern playoffs as the Western cellar-dweller, with 18 points.

All of which explains why an all-Alberta Grey Cup is feasible.

Which is cool, I suppose, if you're an Albertan.

But what would it do for Canadians in general? Would it be of interest for the masses or a turn-off?

CFL spokesman Jamie Dykstra emerged with a politically correct answer for me yesterday, saying: "Our position is that, any time we can have the two best teams in the Grey Cup, that's what we're looking for."

Other CFL sources, however, tell me CFL commissioner Mark Cohon has let it slip in private that he's hoping the Als flourish in the post-season in order to ensure an authentic East-West Grey Cup.

I understand the concerns. But that's life in the CFL. There are always concerns. There are always complications.

For the record, there have been four crossover teams in the CFL since the format was instituted in 1997. None won a playoff game.

But there's always a first. And this year's Esks — or any Western team, for that matter — are strong enough to end the crossover drought and advance to the Cup final next month.

Brace yourself.

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

- Metro sports columnist Marty York is reporting that Don Matthews, winningest coach in CFL history, will be dumped by the Argonauts immediately after this season. The sources say Matthews, 69, had a handshake arrangement only to finish this season and has not impressed Toronto ownership enough to merit retention. The Argos are 0-6 since Matthews replaced Rich Stubler mid-season.

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High scoring, easy wins in Champions League play

SOCCER Defending champion Manchester United, Arsenal and Bayern Munich took big strides toward the next round of the Champions League with easy victories yesterday, and Juventus beat Real Madrid 2-1 on a night of high scoring across Europe.

Dimitar Berbatov scored twice and Wayne Rooney took his total to nine goals in seven games as United outplayed Scottish champion Celtic 3-0. Arsenal won at Fenerbahce 5-2 and Bayern shrugged off its poor Bundesliga form with a 3-0 victory over Fiorentina.

United leads Group E on goal difference with seven points, ahead of Villarreal, which beat Aalborg 6-3 on a night when 36 goals were scored in the eight matches.

Arsenal leads Group G, two points ahead of Dynamo Kyiv, which won at FC Porto 1-0. Bayern beat Fiorentina 3-0 and is two points clear of Lyon, which won 5-3 at Steaua Bucharest after having been two goals down in the first 11 minutes. Karim Benzema and Fred scored two goals each. Juventus ended Real Madrid's perfect start with a victory in Turin helped by Alessandro Del Piero's 25-yard strike after only five minutes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bus tragedy

- Two Juventus fans died and up to 30 more were injured in a bus accident on the way to yesterday's Champions League game with Real Madrid in Turin, news reports said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Winter migration
According to Statistics Canada, Snowbirds are heading south in larger flocks than ever. In 2007, the number of Canadian Snowbirds in the United States jumped to 517,000 from 415,600 in 2006. TRAVELGUARD.CA

Travel

The Fall of the Wall

Next year will mark the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, and to celebrate, cities from Berlin to Leipzig will host special festivals, exhibitions and events. Visit *berlin.de* for further details.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

TRAVELDESK@METRONEWS.CA

More than wine in La Rioja

Sommeliers will appreciate the vintages, but there are surprises for all palates in this Spanish wine region

BETHLEM BORONAT CLAVIJO
Metro World News

Most travellers arrive in the famous wine-producing Rioja region of Spain with just one thing on their mind: Exploring the vineyards and the fabulous wines they produce.

Rioja is full of wineries, many of which you can visit for free. They include the Marques de Riscal wineries in Laguardia in Alava — found in an area called Rioja Alavesa.

The vineyard has a fabulous luxury hotel, designed by architect Frank Gehry, and a spa with treatments using wine. You can book ahead to set up a free tour and tasting at the nearby Cune vineyard, also in Laguardia.

While wine is perhaps the most well-known treasure that La Rioja offers, this land of grapes has so much more to discover and enjoy.

The first thing to do is to visit Logroño, the capital of Rioja. A city founded on the banks of the Ebro — Spain's main river — it has an attractive historic quarter and lively main street that you can explore.

Stop off for lunch in one of the tapas bars on Laurel Street, where you can taste the traditional mini sandwiches, called montaditos, as well as other traditional delicacies including matrimonios (bread with tuna and anchovies), zapatillas (bread with tomato and different complements including cheese, ham and foie gras) and txangurrito (a typical basque mix of grilled shellfish set in a shell).

Nobody should leave the region without visiting Cameros, the mountain range that covers a large part of La Rioja, and is home to some of the most beautiful villages in Spain. In villages including Ortigosa de Cameros, it feels like life has remained unchanged for hundreds of years.

For a fun day out, discover the prehistoric sites along the Route of Cidacos, which follows the river of the same name. Start out at the Centro Paleontológico in the village of Enciso — kids will love the dinosaur remains and the prehistoric fossils on the journey.

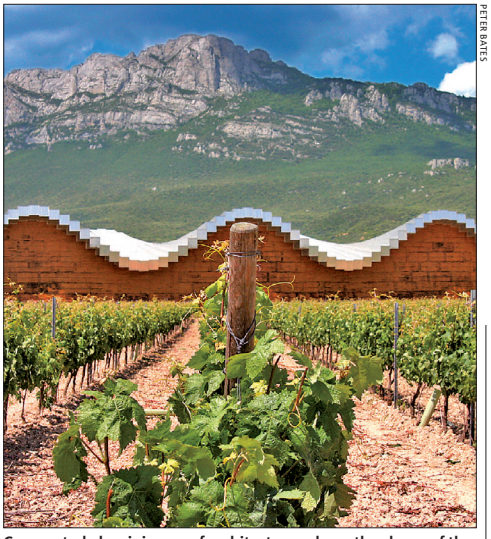
En route you'll also find the village of Arnedillo, where there's a natural hot water spring in the middle of the river. Locals come to bathe in the therapeutic waters here.

On your way to the Route of Cidacos you will also come across a very unusual way of living, traditional to the area. People live in caves throughout the area and you can see holes with doors in the red stone mountains, as well as little gardens and playgrounds. Some of the cave dwellings are still inhabited, and some are just kept as stores.

Food lovers will also want to pay a visit to Calahorra. This city, in the east of La Rioja, is where you will eat the best asparagus, peppers and tomatoes in Spain. You can pick up produce at the market in Plaza del Raso, which has operated since the Middle Ages.

Vegetables might be the trademark of this town, but there is also a very interesting walk to be done around the Jewish Quarter, the cathedral, and the old part of this 2000-year-old city.

Be sure to visit the Roman archaeological sites too, including remains of baths and an amphitheatre. Calahorra was Calagurris in the Roman times, an important centre for commerce and leisure, and as a result it has one of the most interesting circuses in Spain.



PETER BATES

Corrugated aluminium roof architecture echoes the shape of the mountains at the Ysios vineyards in Laguardia. The building was designed by architect Santiago Calatrava.

On the web

- *lariojaturismo.com*

The Rioja region

Need to know

- Where to stay: The Marques de Riscal Hotel.
- Where to eat: Restaurante La Petra, Avenida Cidacos 22, Arnedillo. A restaurant inside a cave, offering wonderful patatas Riojanas and lamb.
- When to go: Summer is the best time to visit La Rioja, as you can see the vineyards in their splendour.
- How to get there: Logroño has a little airport, with services from Madrid. There are trains from Barcelona and Madrid, and a coach service from Barcelona and Madrid.
- How to get around: There is a good bus service linking the main cities. But it's best to rent a car.

LUIS LOTAX

Among the region's historic sites is the bell tower in Rioja.

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Debauchery as destination

A top global travel trend, according to Euromonitor International, is "debaucherism tourism," whereby young adults, seeking to prolong their uninhibited youth, follow in the footsteps of tabloid celebrities and travel to experience out-of-control parties. METRO NEWS SERVICES

METRO WORLD NEWS

Days of the dead

Honouring the dead with gifts and offerings a popular annual November event in Mexico

GABRIELA GUTIÉRREZ
Metro World News

Since September, iconic Day of the Dead decorations have been appearing throughout Mexico's streets and stores. It's more than a marketing exercise, though — Mexicans take this holiday seriously.

Every year on Nov. 1 and 2, Mexican families take time out to remember, pray for, and host the spirits of loved ones who have passed away. Here's what happens:

On those days, graveyards become full of the living. It's like a party; visitors decorate the graves and tombs, and bring flowers, balloons — even Mariachis — with them.

In many little towns (pueblitos) the celebrations last into the night, and the graves are beautiful surrounded by candles and offerings.

There are actually two days of the dead: The first one, celebrated on Nov. 1, is just for the "little deads " — the kids; the second, on Nov. 2, is for the grown-ups.

The annual celebration is the second biggest day for flower sales, out-purchased only by Mother's Day. The cempoasichitl, a sort of marigold, is a poular choice people use as an "ofrendas" made at the grave.

The night before the Day of the Dead, you should leave an ofrenda that includes the four elements for your deceased loved ones, otherwise they will not be waiting for you when you die.

Air is represented by the intense perfume of the cempasuchitl flowers

"Water is left to quench the thirst of the deceased, who will need a drink after their long journey — and a sampling of their favourite tequila is usually also appreciated."

— also known as the-Flower of the Dead — that will lead the dead ones to the ofrenda, and by paper streamers that made a nice noise in the wind.

Earth is symbolised by food and fruit, while fire is represented by candles that light the route for deceased loved ones to find their way back to you.

Water is left to quench the thirst of the deceased, who will need a drink after their long journey — and a sampling of their favourite tequila is usually also appreciated.

A picture of the dead, and all the things they enjoyed in life — from Playstations to comics — is also left so the deceased will feel at home.

People will tradtionaly give you a sugar or a chocolate skull with your name on it that you can eat after the holiday.

You may also receive a humorous rhyming poem called a "calavera" (skull). It's a personalized ode, that ends in your being killed off by Death, who is called by one of his many synonyms: the skinny, the cold, the bony, the "tilica" or the "Catrina,"

Another essential part of an ofrenda is the Bread of Dead, a delicious circle of bread with sugar that may also come with some bone-shaped loafs.

Read more on page 17 »

METRO WORLD NEWS

Offerings, including food and flowers, are traditionaly left on the graves of loved ones on Nov. 1.

On the web

- *visitmexico.com*

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Anaheim 3-Star $479*
Best Western Pavilions Hotel + taxes & fees $247
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Holidays

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Legend of the Seas + taxes & fees $84
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Las Vegas 4 Nights $299
Circus Circus + taxes & fees $212
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare and 4 nights 3-star accom located on the Las Vegas Strip. Departs Jan 26/inf/wg.

Southern Caribbean Cruise $549
Serenade of the Seas + taxes & fees $125
INCLUDES 7-day Royal Caribbean cruise, onboard meals & entertainment. Sail roundtrip from San Juan and visit St Thomas, St Maarten, Antigua, St Lucia and Barbados. Port charges included. Sails Dec 6.

Sun Holidays

Cuba 4-Star $297
Oasis Brisas Santa Lucia + taxes & fees $199
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 4-star all-inclusive accom in Santa Lucia. Departs Nov 13/nol/5g. UPGRADE to 4.5 star accom Oasis Varadero 1920 in Varadero from $30 per night.

Punta Cana 4-Star $345
Grand Paradise Bavaro + taxes & fees $368
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 4-star all-inclusive accom. Departs Oct 30/swg/wg.

Mayan Riviera 4-Star $497
Ocean Maya + taxes & fees $266
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, transfers and 7 nights 4-star all-inclusive accom. Departs Nov 7/nol/ts.

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Slow travel

Another global trend identified by Euromonitor International is slow travel, which is linked with a rise in responsible tourism. Slow travellers often opt to stay in farms or other rural accommodation and prefer to travel by train. METRO NEWS SERVICES

METRO WORLD NEWS PHOTOS

RH PRODUCTIONS

Candy skulls are a popular gift during Day of the Dead festivities.

Above and below left, graveyards are decorated during Day of the Dead celebrations. Below right, for some, donning costumes is also part of the festivities.

JEREMY WOODHOUSE

Continued from page 16 ››

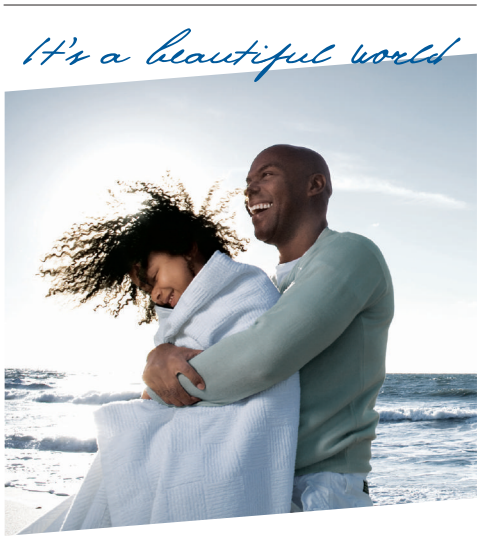
One of the most popular icons found duting the Day of the Dead is the Catrina, an image created by the illustrator Jose Guadalupe Posada, but made famous by the great Mexican painter Diego Rivera (husband of Frida Kalho).

It is the skeleton of a fancy lady, created during the 1910s, which represents the death of high-class society. Nowadays you can find this image repeated in paintings, handicrafts, even costumes.

Not everybody waits at home for the spirits to visit them.

Halloween is celebrated in Mexican culture, and young people go out and celebrate in fancy dress costumes.

The good news is that nobody has to work or attend school the next day, Nov. 2.



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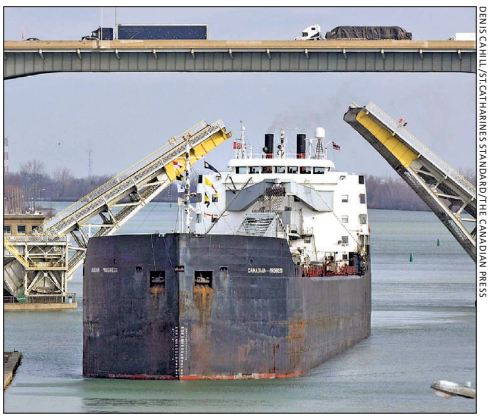
A whale of an exhibit

A whale exhibit from New Zealand has opened at the National Geographic Museum in Washington, D.C. It features a nearly 20-metre sperm whale skeleton and a model of a blue whale's heart that visitors can crawl through. The show will be on through Jan. 18. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ship-spotting on the peninsula

Its technology is not newest, but the Welland Canal carries the power to wow



DENIS CAHILL/ST.CATHARINES STANDARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

DENIS CAHILL/ST.CATHARINES STANDARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Visitors to the Welland Canal can watch everything from freighters to tall ships travel through the lock system.

It's a sunny fall morning and about 50 people are craning their necks on a viewing deck high above the Welland Canal, clicking away with their cameras as they watch the ships glide in to Lock 3.

The Niagara waterway allows massive vessels — some more than two football fields long — to move between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario. Such a voyage is otherwise impossible because of a little obstacle: The gushing cataracts of Niagara Falls.

While the eight locks along the 43.5-kilometre canal are an impressive feat of engineering that allow cargo ships to ascend and descend about 100 metres without negotiating any rapids, some people stop to watch for more poetic reasons.

"It's real relaxing. Being on the water, watching the slow movement of the ships, hearing the (water)," says Bill Vanderdrift of Peterborough, Ont., as he snaps a shot of an oncoming hauler. "It's quite fascinating."

Many come to watch at the Welland Canals Centre, tucked on the eastern edge of St. Catharines, Ont. The site attracts about 150,000 visitors a year, many from far-flung locales. It's also a draw for locals.

Some couples are regulars, grabbing a coffee and staking out a spot to watch the ships — lakers hauling staples such as wheat, coal and salt — come in. Years ago, children used to wait eagerly on the banks, hoping crew members would toss them coins from foreign lands.

Lock 3 is 261.8 metres long. It takes some 93 million litres of water to raise or lower a ship some 14.2 metres. The effect is impressive.

On the web

- *stcatharineslock3museum.ca*
- *greatlakes-seaway.com*

"It's like an apartment building growing up in front of you," says Ron Green, a retiree from Grimsby, Ont. He's visited Lock 3 a handful of times before and on this day has brought his grandson along.

Indeed, the massive freighters are a sight to behold. Visitors can call ahead to find out the schedule. Visits to the viewing deck are free, but Lock 3 is also the site of the St. Catharines Museum, which chronicles the history of the area.

The entire Niagara region, of course, is a tourist hub, with its wineries, quaint towns and seasonal festivals. Still, the canal and the adjacent parkway trail, a mecca for cyclists, in-line skaters and runners, remains a lure.

The waterway was a key development in the growth of Montreal, allowing goods from ports such as Detroit and Cleveland to be shipped there before being sent around the world.

The action at the Welland Canals Centre is fleeting. Lock 3 takes some 10 minutes to fill and a ship is on its way.

Dissan Jayasumana, a bank employee from Toronto, recently brought his two sons for a visit.

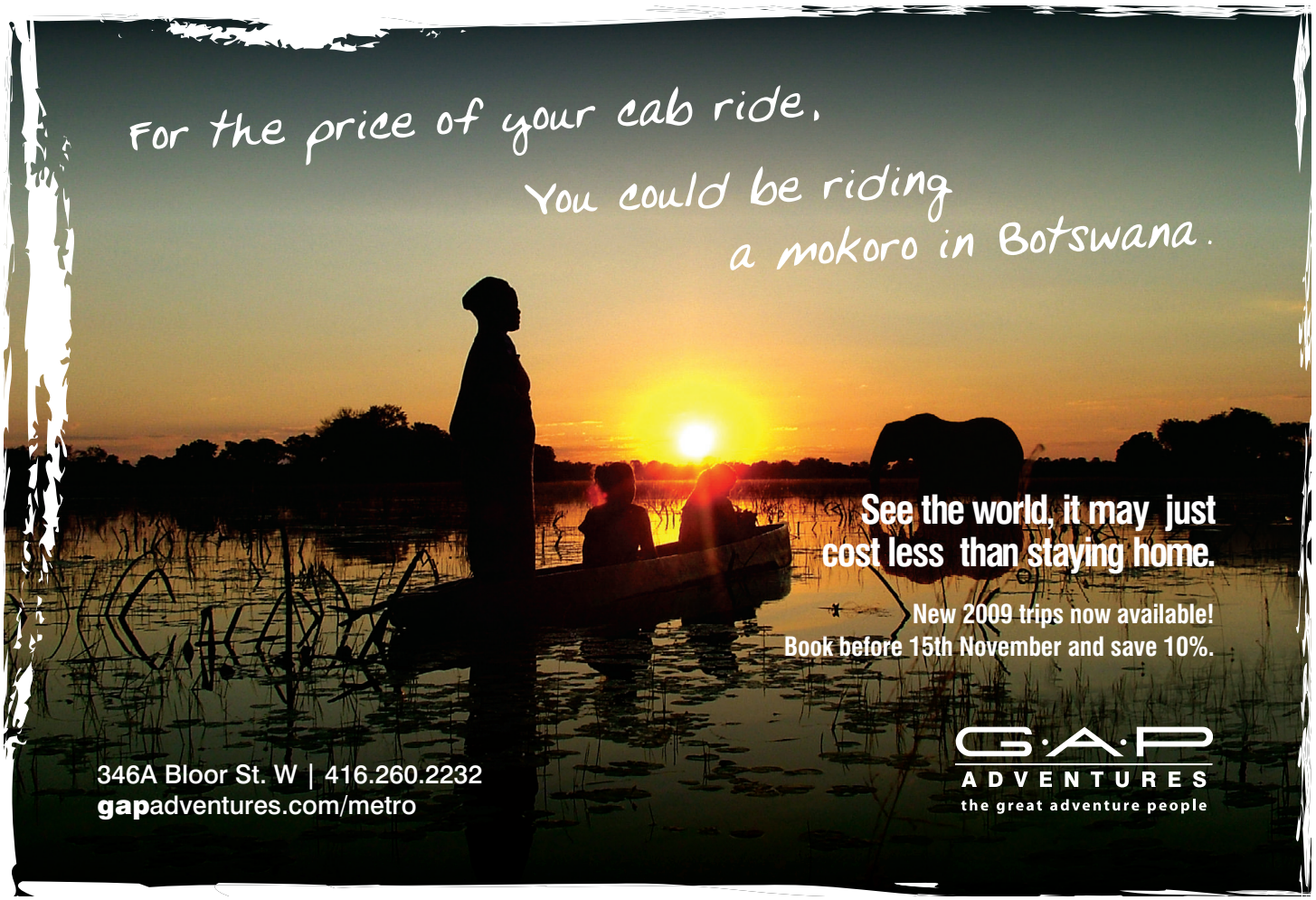
"It's good for them to understand how it works," he said.

"It's not modern technology, but it works very well — serves the purpose."

Says Green of watching the big ships: "It's something to see."

The canal closes in December and opens in March. The centre is open year-round. For viewing times, call 1-800-315-5134.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Eco-buggies
Frégate Island Private, the Seychelles' hippest and eco-friendliest conservation resort, has launched a fleet of solar-powered guest buggies in order to help the island achieve a negative carbon footprint; visit *fregate.com*. METRO WORLD NEWS

Newfoundland and Vancouver Island listed among world's great dive sites

The waters off Newfoundland and Vancouver Island are among "the world's great dive sites" cited in the new Fodor's book Adventure Travel.

Second World War shipwrecks off Newfoundland's Bell Island are accessible to scuba-divers year-round, the book says. The province also offers the opportunity to dive among icebergs, with the best time being May or June.

Marine highlights in the seas around Vancouver Island include orca whales, wolf eels and octopuses, the book says.

Other top-rated dive locations include the Galapagos Islands, Mozambique, Oman, Papua New Guinea and Australia's Great Barrier Reef.

The book considers adventure travel around the world in various categories — land, animal, vehicle, water and air.

CHERYL HATCH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A pod of orcas swims in the waters off of Vancouver Island. A new adventure travel book names the island as one of the world's great dive sites, citing marine highlights including orcas, wolf eels and octopuses.

Other water-related experiences in Canada mentioned include canoeing in Ontario — the province has "possibly the widest range of canoeing adventures anywhere in the world" — and in Banff National Park; sea-kayaking at the northern end of B.C.'s Johnstone Strait; and Arctic sea-kayaking in the fiords of Kane Basin, Ellesmere Island.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Charleston knocks off NYC in Conde Nast Traveler poll

Charleston, S.C., took the No. 2 spot away from New York on the list of best U.S. cities to visit from Conde Nast Traveler magazine's Readers' Choice Awards.

Tops on the best cities list was San Francisco, while the Big Apple ended up in third place. San Francisco has been the No. 1 city in the Readers' Choice Awards for 16 years straight.

The Peninsula in Chicago was named top U.S. hotel, followed by Elizabeth Pointe Lodge, Amelia Island, Fla., and Stephanie Inn, Cannon Beach, Ore.

Among U.S. resorts, Kenwood Inn & Spa, Sonoma, Calif., was named No. 1, with the Inn at Thorn Hill & Spa, Jackson, N.H., and the Sanctuary at Kiawah Island, S.C.., in second and third places.

The awards are based on the results of the Conde Nast Traveler Readers Choice Survey, in which 32,633 readers voted. Winners are listed in the magazine's November issue.

In Europe, Italy was a big winner with Florence and Rome in the top two spots for best cities, followed by a third-place tie between Venice and Salzburg, Austria. Prague reappeared on the top 10 European cities list for the first time in four years.

In the Caribbean/Atlantic, Bermuda was named best island, followed by St. John and St. Barts.

Singapore Airlines won top international airline, an honour it has achieved for 20 of the last 21 years. Virgin America, a newcomer among U.S. carriers, was named best domestic airline. JetBlue Airways was No. 2 in the domestic category.

Top cruise lines were Crystal Cruises for large ships and Seabourn for small ships. Hertz was named top car rental agency.

Conde Nast Traveler created two new categories for this year's list: resorts in the Middle East, with Dubai's Burj Al Arab in first place, and hotels in Central America, with Casa Santo Domingo in Guatemala as No. 1.

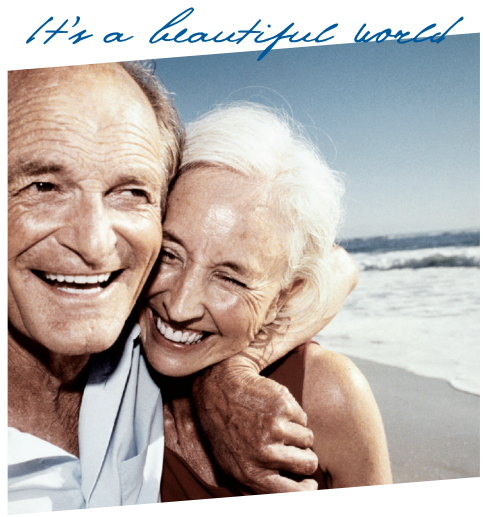
The top Asian city was Bangkok, while the No. 1 spot for cities in The Americas went to Buenos Aires.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Montreal exhibits focus on rock

MONTREAL Three exhibits being staged in Montreal this fall explore the influence of rock music on art. Warhol Live, at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, considers the role of music in the works of artist Andy Warhol. It runs to Jan. 18. At the Musée d'art contemporain de Montreal, Sympathy for the Devil: Art and Rock and Roll Since 1967 looks at the relationship between avant-garde art and rock music. A show called Replay at the Foundation for Contemporary Art brings together video works by Christian Marclay, and starts on Nov. 30.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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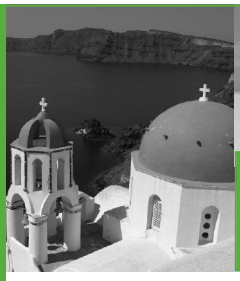

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New York send-off

Cruise liner Queen Elizabeth 2, set to become a floating Dubai hotel, received a royal send-off in New York that featured a rendezvous with sister ship Queen Mary 2 at the Statue of Liberty and fireworks before heading home to Britain. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Karsh exhibit to celebrate photographer's centenary

BOSTON The Museum of Fine Arts is marking the 100th birthday of legendary Canadian photographer Yousuf Karsh with an exhibition of some of his iconic portraits.

Karsh 100: A Biography in Images includes more than 100 works, including famous photographs of Jackie Kennedy, Dwight Eisenhower, Fidel Castro, Albert Einstein, Pablo Picasso, Ernest Hemingway, Helen Keller, Audrey Hepburn, Sophia Loren, Angela Lansbury and Boris Karloff.

The exhibit also highlights Karsh's early work when he was developing his style as well as photographs made in the 1950s. Karsh was born in Armenia in 1908 and died in 2002. The exhibit continues until Jan. 19. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Having traveled to some 60 countries, with three around-the-world adventures under my belt, I've spent a lot of time flying. With so much time travelling to and from airports, packing, unpacking, standing in line-ups and answering questions from customs officials, I've picked up a few tricks.

• When booking an airline ticket, flying mid-week will not only be cheaper, it won't be as crowded.

• Sign up for frequent flier rewards points from all airline carriers: Air Canada (Aeroplan), Cathay Pacific (Asia Miles), American Airlines (Aadvantage), and so on. This way, no matter what airline you fly, you'll be raking up points to put towards future travel.

• On the day of the flight, check in online. By doing so, you'll avoid one less frustrating line-up, get the chance to select your preferred seat in advance and minimize your airport waiting time.

• Selecting the perfect airplane seat is an art. For short flights, I prefer an aisle seat (more leg room) near an exit row, so I can quickly escape if, in the unlikely event of a crash, the plane bursts into flames. For long-haul flights, I prefer a window seat, so my head will have something to hit when it nods off. I've also learned the hard way that the seats just before the exit row don't recline. Not a very comfortable choice for overnight flights; *seatguru.com* is a great resource for plotting your perfect seat.

• Bottles of liqueur may make great gifts but, due to recent rules about bringing liquids on-board, they must be checked. In order to prevent leakage or breaks, wrap these bottles up in clothing and pad them in the middle of your suitcase.

• Charge up your gadgets, be it laptop, iPod or cell phone, so they're juiced up for the long plane ride and point of landing.

• There's nothing worse than when your gooey cosmetics explode all over your neatly packed clothing. I like to put anything that can leak inside tightly sealed Ziploc plastic bags. So if a spill happens, at least the mess is contained.

• When you arrive at the airline check-in counter, it may be worth asking if there are any "emergency or exit rows" available. These seats come with responsibility, but you also get extra leg room.

• Think ahead. For the sanity of the rest of us patiently waiting in line behind you, empty your pockets before you get to the metal detectors. Scan through your bags to make sure all liquids, tweezers and weapons of mass destruction are not in your carry-on.

Safe travels!

Julia Dimon is co-host of Word Travels, airing on OLN; juliadimon.com.

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Northward bound

About 100,000 tourists have visited historic sites in the North Korean border city of Kaesong since a new tour program opened in December last year. The tourists have mostly been South Koreans but 2,600 Americans, Japanese and other foreigners have taken part. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Disney says aloha to Oahu with fantasy resort-hotel complex

Seventy years after his first ride on Hawaii surf, Mickey Mouse is finally coming back to the islands. Disney's plan for a Hawaii hotel complex is far from another Disneyland, both in distance and concept.

But Walt Disney Parks & Resorts' first venture in the islands will add 830 hotel and vacation time-share rooms, a fantasy-laden water play area and an 1,700-square-metre spa to the rapidly expanding Ko Olina resort on West Oahu.

"We plan to offer the opportunity for our guests to vacation in a completely new way, very different than they do at our theme-park resorts, when they come here to Hawaii."
Jay Rasulo, Disney resorts chairman

The complex is expected to be completed in 2011.

A detailed scale model of the complex was displayed at a news conference with Disney officials and Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hannemann.

It'll be the first such complex for Disney away from a theme park, combining a 350-room hotel with 480 vacation villas on one of Ko Olina's four man-made lagoons, which already feature a Marriott hotel and timeshares, a luxury condominium project and wedding chapels.

"We plan to offer the opportunity for our guests to vacation in a completely new way, very different than they do at our theme park resorts, when they come here to Hawaii — to be surrounded, to discover Oahu, to discover the Hawaiian Islands," said Disney resorts chairman Jay Rasulo.

The resort is expected to hire 1,000 "cast members," Rasulo said. Many will come from Oahu's relatively low-income Leeward Coast.

He noted that one of Walt Disney's earliest films, Hawaiian Holiday, of 1937, featured Mickey on a surfboard in the islands.

Disney has several themed resort hotels near Disneyland in California and Disney World in Florida, but has never built a hotel and time-share complex that will stand on its own. Hawaii has no full-scale amusement park.

Rasulo had said there were no plans to expand the resort into a theme park. The timeshare units will be part of the 350,000-member family-oriented Disney Vacation Club, which has eight other resorts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Workology

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EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Business must cater to youth

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Younger generations need and expect technology to be a part of the workplace and older small business owners have to be ready to shake their technology fears if they hope to attract young talent, experts say.

Linda Duxbury, a professor at Ottawa's Carleton Univeristy who studies generational trends says age is a major factor in Canada's small business sector as 25 per cent of small business owners in the country are aged 62 or older, compared to only six-to-eight per cent of the workforce as a whole. She suggests the generational gap can become an issue when older business owners transpose their own expectations and attitudes to technology onto their younger workforce — such as refusing to upgrade to laptops or not covering employees' handheld data plans.

"The disconnect between their comfort zone and what older owners expect could make it harder for older business owners to attract youth talent, whose expectation is they'll have what they're used to in the workplace," Duxbury said.

Younger users prefer handheld devices for staying connected while Baby Boomers tend to avoid handheld technology. Older users also prefer desktop computers while younger members of Generation X and Y overwhelmingly gravitate towards laptops both at home and in the workplace — and Duxbury says aging business owners need to focus on providing the tools their employees want rather than those the owner would prefer.

Jean-Paul Desmarais, a senior marketing manager at Hewlett Packard Canada, says fears of investing in new technology are often unfounded, as Gen X and Y tend to self-train themselves to use technology quite effectively.

> **"The younger generation are more likely to just take something out of the box, turn it on and see what happens."**
> Jean-Paul Desmarais

"The younger generation are more likely to just take something out of the box, turn it on and see what happens. You see that reflected in how many small businesses learn," Desmarais said.

When it comes to online security, attitudes shift even further. HP marketing director Michael McAvoy says Baby Boomers tend to take a more cautious approach to using the Internet and are more of a driving force pushing technology providers to focus on security. Meanwhile the younger generations show a greater willingness to share personal information publicly on websites like Facebook and Myspace and are more accustomed to the risks of online life.

Older business owners need to cater to the technological needs of their younger workers.

"Gen X and Gen Y tend to accept that security may not be something they can always achieve and they're willing to live with some of the security issues that might be out there," McAvoy said.

Duxbury says the technological gap between generations is as much about philosophy as it is about practicality.

"It's a huge ideological divide. People say technology helped bridge the gap — no, technology is the gap," she said.

Elder care booming as of late

STATSCAN In 2007, about 2.7 million Canadians aged 45 and over, or approximately one-fifth of the total in this age group, provided some form of unpaid care to seniors (people 65 years of age or older) who had long-term health problems, according to a Statistics Canada release.

Between 2002 and 2007, the number of people providing care to seniors increased by more than 670,000.

A factor that will impact caregiving for seniors is the aging of the population. According to census data, the population of seniors surpassed 4.3 million in 2006, up 11.5 per cent from 2001. Population projections suggest that the proportion of seniors in the general population will increase from 13 per cent in 2006 to 21 per cent in 2026.

Many people giving care to seniors are balancing this with other responsibilities, such as jobs and care for their own children. About 43 per cent of caregivers were aged between 45 and 54, when many Canadians still have children living at home. Caregivers were more likely to be women who were employed and married.

In 2007, one in four caregivers, or about 675,000 people, were themselves seniors, and one-third of these senior caregivers were over the age of 75.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Dismissing an underperformer is not an easy task. Court cases clearly state that employers owe a duty to provide employees with the opportunity and means required to improve underperformance, if dismissing them on those grounds. Judges require that employers prove an employee was grossly incompetent, and that progressive warnings were issued, clearly identifying areas of concern.

Therefore, employers seeking to dismiss their habitual underperformer usually follow a prescription for a tidy divorce: create a paper trail documenting any and all allegations and concerns. Typically, this is accomplished by a series of negative performance appraisals. If the employee then wishes to go to war, there is a mountain of evidence to overcome.

Performance appraisals can, however, be a double-edged sword. For maligned employees, I often recommend that they build a supportive documentary case by challenging a negative or unjust performance appraisal. Then, should legal confrontation ensue, there is an ability to contest any harmful inference drawn by a series of poor appraisals.

For employees faced with a negative performance appraisal, consider the following advice:

- Document your response to a challenged appraisal in writing and request that the response be placed alongside the appraisal in your human resource file.
- Performance appraisals should be remedial in nature. Point out that the standards expected are not objectively reasonable, are beyond your capability, were never communicated, or suitable instruction and supervision were never given to assist in meeting those standards.
- Although remedial, negative performance appraisals usually contemplate corrective discipline, which may eventually support the employer's case for dismissal. Therefore, ask for sufficient time and support to correct any alleged deficiency. State that all of the company's concerns can't be addressed without assistance and while expected to simultaneously maintain a regular workload.
- Express bewilderment if there is any marked inconsistency with previous positive appraisals or accomplishments and point out any historical or recent achievements.
- State that prior to the appraisal, the alleged shortcoming was never verbalized and, as far as understood, you were just following the procedures or protocol in place.
- Note if there are any perceived inequities in the evaluation process of other less-scrutinized employees.
- Where specific actions or events are chastised, state your version of the events was not solicited before this criticism was levelled and then document this version regardless if it's now sought.
- Ask for clarification and examples, in writing, regarding any aspects of the appraisal that is misunderstood or that may potentially be challenged. Point out that the explanation first provided was so vague that the underlying concerns can't possibly be addressed.
- If there is any policy detailing the evaluation or appraisal process, point out any inconsistencies with the policy and state the appraisal did not meet the required criterion.

There are many ways to challenge a dismissal, as long as you start the process following a negative performance review.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer focusing on the law of dismissal; dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com.

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N.L. students to receive $12 million in up-front grants
In the next few weeks, the Newfoundland and Labrador government will be distributing $12.4 million in non-repayable grants to the province's post-secondary students. METRO NEWS SERVICES

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Auto industry nuts and bolts

On his first day on the job at his father's Toyota dealership, a nervous Ken Shaw Jr. surprised himself by selling a car.

A happy outcome for anyone new to the sales floor, but what made it all the more remarkable was that Ken was 16 years old at the time. The year was 1968.

Today, Ken is co-owner of Ken Shaw Lexus Toyota along with his brother, Paul. Operating a busy dealership means their duties often vary in this fast-paced and fickle industry. Ken lists manager of budget, staff, facilities and customer expectations off the top of his head.

Many dealerships these days are investor-owned conglomerates, but not Ken Shaw's store, which remains all in the family.

"There is a satisfaction in protecting the family name, the credibility that comes with knowing that customers can trust that Shaw name," explains Ken Jr.

What sets the Ken Shaw dynasty apart from other dealerships was Ken Senior's insistence that his boys learn the nuts and bolts of the auto industry. Literally.

"Most dealership principals do not have a service background. They come from the sales end of the business," explains Ken Jr. "My father insisted that my brother Paul and I become auto technicians first."

As an apprentice, he came to Centennial College to complete his in-class training modules in Canada's largest automotive technology labs. Combined with the work back in his dad's shop, it was an illuminating education that served Ken well.

He graduated in 1974 while his younger brother, Paul, would follow in his footsteps, graduating from Centennial in 1981. His son Kenny would do the same, completing his technician's requirements in 2006.

Thanks to their college education, Ken and Paul are two of the relatively few auto dealers who understand the service end of the business intimately. The service area is the most profitable part of a car dealership.

"The next sale you make is dependent upon the last service you delivered," Ken likes to say.

Ken's technicians know that he's knowledgeable and can come back and check that they are doing their job correctly. His familiarity works in his favour, he says, because he enjoys very little staff turnover.

"In our industry, service used to be called the back shop, now it is referred to as the backbone of the dealership," Ken says.

Ken's emphasis on service sounds like a well-worn cliché, but it's been a formula for success at Ken Shaw Lexus Toyota, which is celebrating exactly 40 years as a Toyota dealer this month.

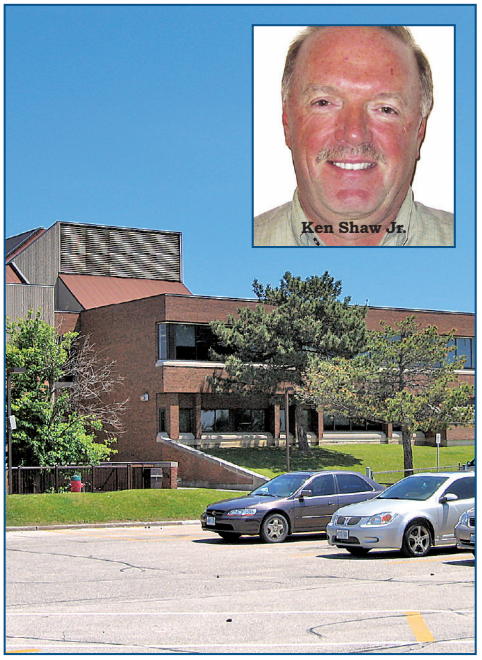
Ken credits his college education for his success in a tumultuous industry that doesn't always look kindly upon family-run ventures.

Surprisingly, perhaps, Ken has no university credentials.

"My father believed that a technician's education was all that I needed," says Ken. "He thought that four years in the service shop was more valuable than four more years at university."

For information about Centennial's School of Transportation programs, visit centennialcollege.ca/transportation.

– MARK TOLJAGIC



Centennial College

Alleged breach of privacy at Ryerson

Ryerson University violated Ontario privacy laws by leaving confidential documents, such as payroll stubs and student numbers, in empty, unlocked offices, according to the Eyeopener, a student newspaper. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Kids get a soundtrack to learning

Alternative rock music, the often quirky and unconventional music style that emerged in the '80s and '90s, is fast attracting a new audience — children.

Younger children are being introduced to some of their parents' favourite bands, not only through mom and dad's music collection, but on some of their favourite educational television shows. This brand of music is proving so popular, in fact, that bands are forming solely for the toddler set.

The list of artists contributing to kids' shows reads like a who's who of the alternative music scene from the '80s and '90s. On any given programming day on the children's network Playhouse Disney (playhousedisney.ca), which is available in Canada through many cable and satellite distributors, viewers will hear the likes of They Might Be Giants (Mickey Mouse Clubhouse), Los Lobos (Handy Manny), Dan Zanes from the Del Fuegos (Dan Zanes and Friends), and Kay Hanley from Letters to Cleo (My Friends Tigger and Pooh).

While "alternative music" has always been difficult to define, one thing all these bands have in common is a desire to educate through music. They Might Be Giants, for example, have released two CDs (Here Come the 123s and the more recent Here Come the ABCs), both of which attempt to teach children basic skills through their trademark irreverent songwriting style.

Perhaps the best example of how alternative music for kids is hitting home is New Orleans quartet Imagination Movers. Unlike many of the other bands who are performing for children, Imagination Movers formed specifically to reach children. Their newly launched TV show of the same name is structured to teach children creative problem-solving skills through rock 'n' roll.

NEWS CANADA

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Shopping tip
Sign up for customer rewards program at stores that you regularly shop at. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Loyalty & Rewards

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE BOMBA, STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

All about choice

Broad range of rewards, including cash, now available

TERRENCE BELFORD
for Metro Canada

Just a decade ago, men and women collecting loyalty rewards across Canada had a pair of plain vanilla choices when it came to cashing in those points: Air travel or a limited range of merchandise.

Today, plain vanilla has morphed into more choices than the front counter at a Baskin Robbins ice cream parlour.

Depending on the program, rewards points can pay down mortgages and personal loans, pay municipal property taxes in some cities, be converted into retirement or education savings or provide a chunk of cash back at the end of the year.

Recipients can rent cars, pay for vehicles, support charities, spend a weekend at a spa, go to a movie or a concert and purchase anything from $25 gift certificates to Vespa scooters and big screen televisions — or even offset all that carbon whooshed into the atmosphere by jet planes.

"For us, it is a matter of meeting customer demand, doing the research, finding out what customers really want and then offering that kind of reward," says Stacey Pearson, associate vice-president of retail products at TD Visa. "We have done the studies of our customers, and what they have told us they really want is two things: Travel and cash back."

The result? TD offers a quartet of Visa cards with travel rewards, two of which give cash back based on total spending.

"At the end of each year, we send out cheques to cardholders in the tens of millions of dollars," she says. "For many of them, it is the happiest day of the year. With the cash they receive, they can go out and buy what they want. There is no need for merchandise rewards."

Lori Gray, vice-president of branch banking for the Ontario region at HSBC Canada, says she would go along with part of that. HSBC customers want travel and cash back, but they also want two other options: Merchandise and the ability to give rewards points to charities.

"Loyalty is all about choices," she says. "Collectors usually decide from the beginning what kinds of rewards best suit them and then start working out ways to maximize spending so they get the rewards they want.

"At our bank, there is a 50-50 split between customers collecting for travel and customers collecting for other rewards, including merchandise, charitable donations and cash back."

At Air Miles, all categories of rewards showed a huge increase in redemptions last year, says Neil Everett, senior vice-president and chief marketing officer at Loyalty One, which runs the program.

"Redemptions are up 13 per cent so far this year," he says. "To date, 94 per cent of all collectors have redeemed for something."

The most popular rewards are gift certificates, including fuel cards, followed by electronics.

Collectors usually start by redeeming for small rewards — perhaps an A&P gift certificate — says Everett. Then they move up the chain.

"The next redemption might be something like an iPod. When they find out how easy it is ... they set their sights higher."

How high? Everett says Air Miles will fill about 600,000 airline seats this year — or one every 3.9 seconds.

At Aeroplan, merchandise rewards are fast rising in popularity.

In 2006, they accounted for 18 per cent of redemptions. Last year, that figure rose to 20 per cent and, this year, it has already reached that 20-per-cent mark, says Nathalie Belanger, general manager of rewards management at Groupe Aeroplan in Montreal.

Aeroplan currently offers more than 500 merchandise rewards, including Vespa motor scooters that cost 619,000 miles each.

"We started life as a frequent-flyer program but are now in the process of recreating ourselves as a more complicated, more sophisticated frequent-flyer and frequent-spender program," Berlanger says.

"To do that, we have added a range of redemption choices, including merchandise, charitable giving, experiential rewards and even a new carbon credit program, which lets members use rewards points to offset the carbon dioxide their flights release into the atmosphere."

Studies have shown customers prefer cash back and travel rewards, as well as merchandise and the ability to donate points.

Just cash, please

Here's a look at five of the top credit cards in Canada that offer their subscribers cash back on purchases.

Capital One 1 per cent Cash Back Platinum Mastercard
- 0.5 per ent cash back on purchases of up to $3,000; 1 per cent back on all purchases greater than $3,000.
- No maximum rebate.

Citibank Enrich Mastercard
- 1 per cent cash back on all purchases.
- Maximum of $250 back per year ($25,000 spending).

Canadian Tire Cash Advantage Mastercard
- 1 per cent cash back when you spend more than $1,000 during a billing cycle.
- 2 per cent back for purchases at Canadian Tire stores and gas stations.
- No maximum rebate.

CIBC 1 per cent Dividend Visa
- 0.25 per cent cash back on annual purchases up to $1,500; 0.5 per cent back on purchases from $1,500.01 to $3,000; 1 per cent back for net purchases over $3,000.
- No maximum rebate.

American Express Costco Platinum Cash Rebate Card
- 0.25 per cent cash back on the first $2,000 in purchases; 0.5 per cent back on the next $3,000 in purchases; 1.5 per cent back on any amount over $5,000.
- Maximum rebate of $500 ($37,000 spending).
- Must have a Costco membership to be eligible.

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Do your research

Before signing up for a rewards card, spend some time going through the program benefits to find out how points are earned, what types of rewards are offered and how many points are required to redeem for the items you want. **NEWS CANADA**

Building up brand is key

Keeping customers happy important as market falls

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Consumers will look to spend their dollars where they get the most value, so keeping them happy is a win-win situation, experts say.

As the market continues to plummet, keeping current customers loyal to your brand is likely to become more important than ever.

With less money to spend in a down-turning economy, even the strongest sellers are likely to see a drop in their overall sales, regardless of whether customers stick with their particular brand.

There are some bright spots, however.

When times get tough, people take fewer risks, meaning they tend to stick with reliable brands they know and trust.

Loyalty incentives such as quantity discounts, frequent shopper cards and Air Miles reward points can also have a greater impact than usual, as customers look for every savings edge they can get when shopping.

Malcolm Fowler, senior vice-president of Vancouver-based loyalty solutions company Ernex, says that loyalty programs actually become more important as tough times hit.

"It is a common misconception that in harder times loyalty programs become one of the first things that are cut from marketing budgets. As the economy continues to squeeze consumers' wallets, consumers will look to spend their dollars where they get the most value — a loyalty program can be a key differentiator," Fowler said.

"As the economy continues to squeeze consumers' wallets, consumers will look to spend their dollars where they get the most value — a loyalty program can be a key differentiator." Malcolm Fowler

He does expect retailers will forgo the long-term rewards packages and instead focus more on instant gratification.

"As consumers begin to look toward ways to cut down their expenses, businesses may offer shorter, more immediate rewards rather than focusing on awards that may seem harder to attain," Fowler said.

He also says research has shown obtaining new customers is three to five times as expensive as it is to maintain the business of current customers, so keeping current customers happy is a win-win situation financially.

As long as businesses update their loyalty programs to make sure they are relevant to their customers' needs and tastes, Fowler says customers will come back.

"It really doesn't matter if someone who will never purchase from your business doesn't see value in your loyalty program — it does matter that your best customers do and that the program is relevant to your target market," he said.

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With rising gas prices and airline costs, travel points can be a valuable reward. If travel is important to you, look for a card that allows you to redeem for air travel rewards. NEWS CANADA

How to get the most out of your travel reward points

TERRENCE BELFORD
for Metro Canada

Getting the most out of loyalty rewards programs can be a challenge. The range of program options and credit card offerings is huge. In many cases, the number of points needed for big-ticket items can be daunting.

How can the average person make the most out of being a rewards collector?

Here are some tips from a trio of experts: Lynne Kilpatrick, senior vice-president of personal banking at the Bank of Montreal; Stacie Pearson, associate vice-president of retail products at the Toronto Dominion Bank; and Neil Everett, senior vice-president and chief marketing officer at Loyalty One, which operates Canada's largest rewards program — Air Miles.

• **Do your homework.** There is a range of things to consider. First, what kinds of rewards are you most interested in: Travel, merchandise, cash back at the end of the year, charitable giving, money to pay down loans, saving for RRSPs, a credit against your property taxes? Then be realistic. Look at how many rewards points you will need for any or all of these.

• **Look at your own spending and regular travel patterns.** If you seldom get on a plane or if you only put $1,000 a month on that credit card, the chances of getting that dream vacation while you are young enough to enjoy it are slim. Better to opt for a card and a program that offers low redemption rewards like simple electronics, movie passes or gift certificates.

• **If you fly with regularity and on a specific airline, join that airline's frequent-flyer program and get a credit card that offers miles on that airline.** That way you get to double dip every time you fly on that airline or one of its partner airlines and pay for the trip with the card.

• **Think about programs that offer more than a single way to pick up points.** Bank of Montreal offers Air Miles on a credit card, with debit card transactions plus a multiplier if you have other bank products as well. CIBC has introduced Aeroplan Miles with its no-limit chequing accounts as well as offering them with its Aerogold Visa cards.

• **Look for programs with special introductory bonus offers.** Some companies such as American Express Canada and CIBC offer up to 15,000 bonus points if you sign up for one of their products within a certain time frame.

• **Enlist the help of family members by sharing a rewards account.** If life partners and older children are all putting points gained by spending and travelling in a single account, points add up quickly.

• **Maximize your collecting by using the credit card for everything — as long as you can pay outstanding balances every month.** Carry a balance and the interest costs can erode any benefits gained.

• **Consider the annual fee for the credit card and then translate that into how much you have to spend before you are actually ahead of the game.** If you pay $60 a year for a card, that means you have to spend at least $6,000 just to make up that fee in points collected.

• **Think about ease of redemption, especially with travel.** If you plan trips on the spur of the moment, frequent-flyer plans may not be for you. Aeroplan, for example, only has a lock on 8 per cent of Air Canada's seats in any month, so that last-minute trip may not be possible — unless you are willing to pay a significant premium in reward miles. Other programs allow you to book through the travel agent of choice and pay with rewards when the monthly credit card statement arrives.

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Shopping tip

When shopping for travel rewards programs, consider what portion of the cost the program covers. Some rewards just apply to the basic fare, which means you would have to pay extra for airport taxes, fuel surcharges and more. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Redemption rates rise during the holidays

ERIC EMIN WOOD
for Metro Canada

Thinking about redeeming those reward points this November? You're not alone. Most loyalty programs see their redemption rates go up during the holiday season, and this year, despite talk of a recession, is expected to be no different.

"From a rewards perspective, we're pretty confident that people are going to be using their miles as much, if not more, to get the things that they want for the holidays," says Nathalie Belanger, general manager of rewards management with Aeroplan.

Two-thirds of Aeroplan's four million members redeem their points during the holiday season, says Belanger. Rate of accumulation is roughly one mile for every dollar spent, with non-flight rewards ranging from $50 gift cards (which cost around 6,000 miles) to a 50-inch HDTV (483,000 miles).

Aeroplan rival Air Miles is no different. "I think the big focus is just people getting smarter about how they spend their dollars," says Neil Everett, senior vice-president and chief marketing officer with Air Miles. "Our program is primarily based on things you need to buy every day, so we don't see a significant change in that behaviour."

WILLIAM THOMAS CAIN/GETTY IMAGES

Retail programs tend to gain customers during the holidays.

The Air Miles reward program includes 14.5 million members in Canada, with more than 100 sponsors offering more than 800 products and gift certificates in every category imaginable. Rewards include the iPod Touch (4200 miles), a 50-inch HDTV (36,000 miles) and Flare magazine subscriptions (75 miles). Most sponsors offer one Air Mile for every $20 spent.

Neither Aeroplan nor Air Miles see enrolments spike during the holidays. "We typically see about 60,000 enrolments a month," says Everett. "It takes a bit of time to collect miles, so there really isn't an advantage to enrolling at this particular time of year."

Retail programs usually gain customers during the holiday season, however.

"Since the holidays are our busiest season and most enrolment happens in our stores, we typically see an increase in memberships," says Shawn Bloom, Director of Hbc Rewards.

Members of the Hbc reward program earn 50 points for every dollar they spend at any Bay, Zellers or Home Outfitters store. Rewards include Hbc gift cards (a $100 gift card is worth 800,000 points), gas, movies, and even flights.

More customers sign up for Indigo's iRewards program during the holiday season as well, says Deirdre Horgan, chief marketing officer of Indigo. "We see a quarter of our annual members sign up during the November-December time period," she says. Members of the program account for more than 40 per cent of the company's overall sales.

The iRewards program differs from the others in that it's fee-based. Rather than points, consumers are offered savings on merchandise — 40 per cent off bestsellers, 10 per cent off all books in-store, 5 per cent off any books purchased online. More than one million members pay the annual fee of $25.

"The difference is you get immediate benefits," Horgan says. "Books are an affordable gift, and this holiday season people are going to be seeking discounts and saving a bit more aggressively than in the past."

Survey says...

According to the 2007 NADbank study of Metro Canada* readers:

- 72 per cent use a loyalty or rewards program;
- 45 per cent use air travel rewards;
- 43 per cent use other retail programs;
- 37 per cent use rewards at department stores;
- 26 per cent use gas rewards;
- 24 per cent use bank rewards credits;
- 15 per cent use other loyalty programs.

(*Metro Canada includes Montreal CMA, Ottawa-Gatineau CMA, Toronto CMA, and Vancouver CMA.)

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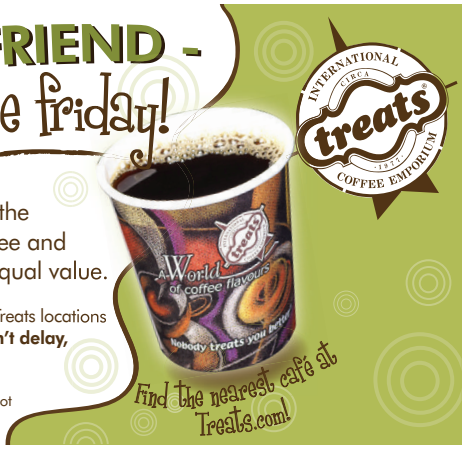

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ROBERT BIENTEMA
for Metro Canada

The Acura TL debuted in 1995 with what would become the gradual evolution of Honda Accord-based efforts, but it's the third-generation version that really caught the attention of Acura aficionados with its techno-loaded combination of angular design and dynamically muscular performance.

Yes, there's been contentment in Acuraville. But if you pressed the TL faithful, they just might admit to a small wish list requesting more of the same – more power, more handling, a more distinctive look and, what the heck, maybe a little more rear seat room while we're at it.

So, with the latest generation design, still handsome as it is, now in its fifth year, a reworking was inevitable – which was why Canadian automotive journalists trekked to New York for the recent unveiling of the new fourth-generation 2009 Acura TL.

So, let's start with size. The 2009 Acura TL is noticeably larger – 156 mm (6 inches) longer, 30 mm (1.8 inches) wider and 10 mm (0.5 inches) taller. And that bigger body rests on a wider track and a 34 mm (1.4 inches) longer wheelbase, all of the latter applied to a stretch of rear seat room. There's also more trunk room, a larger double-deck glove box, a sliding drawer in the centre armrest and new centre console pockets.

The size increase results are obvious – more interior room and more poise on the road. Yet the size increase has been managed with minimal weight gain and it has not hampered the TL's inherent sportiness.

Which brings us to power and performance. And the one factor that has always sort of sidelined the TL as the wallflower at the sport sedan dance – front-wheel-drive.

While the European originators of the sport sedan niche have remained true to the balance credo of front-wheel-steering and rear-wheel-drive, also inspiring other Japanese brands like Lexus and Infiniti to follow their lead, Acura remained the only premier brand to dig in its heels and stick with front-wheel power. But as those competitors have begun to push performance further with new all-wheel drive offerings, Acura can now meet them on a level playing field with their own SH-AWD, or Super Handling All-Wheel Drive system.

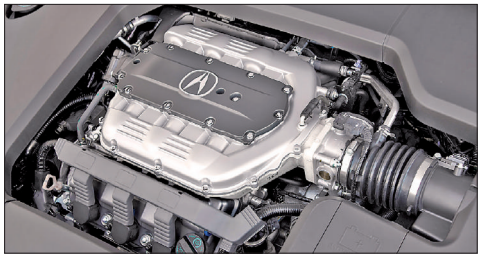
The 2009 Acura TL will be available in two models – TL and TL SH-AWD

The SH-AWD, available on the TL for the first time, is primarily a front-wheel-drive system that can shift up to 70 per cent of power to the rear wheels under acceleration. In fact, it can shift torque to any wheel. On your favourite twisties, the system can also distribute more torque to the outside rear wheel to create a "yaw moment" to help the TL turn in more quickly and precisely - while also continuously apportioning drivetrain power from front to rear and left to right. There's an obvious reduction of the torque-steering feel inherent to the base front-wheel-drive model and the result is balanced performance that offers more than just all-weather security.

Corresponding to those two model choices are two different all-aluminum VTEC engines. A 3.5-litre V6 producing 280 hp and 254 lb/ft of torque replaces the former 3.2-litre engine. For those of you keeping score, that's an increase of 22 hp and 21 lb-ft of torque while maintaining equivalent fuel economy.

Performance-sedan devotees will probably choose the TL SH-AWD model. Its bored and stroked, all-new 3.7-litre V6 engine harnesses 305 hp and 273 lb/ft of torque and it accelerates with a little more sound and fury than the stock engine. Those are V8 numbers with V6 fuel economy, with power levels up 19 hp and 19 lb-ft over the previous Type-S 3.5-litre.

The 2009 Acura TL, bigger, with more power, more poise and now available with SH-AWD or Super Handling All-Wheel Drive system.



The TL SH-AWD model with its artfully exposed all-new 3.7-litre V6 engine harnessing 305 hp and 273 lb-ft of torque.

2009 Acura TL

Type: Premium sports Sedan
Price: $39,990-$44,490
Engine: 3.5-litre V6
HP: 280-305 hp

Highlights

- Muscular styling
- Front- and AWD available
- Larger than predecessor

Rust control treatments make your car last longer and will save money over the long term.

Rustproofing for the winter ahead

Winter will soon be here again and it's time to think about how to protect your automobile from the deterioration caused by cold weather, snow and road salt.

One way is to take your vehicle for a rust-control treatment. Frequently referred to as rustproofing, it's a process of spraying a rust-inhibiting chemical on the underside and inside of your vehicle's body, as well as any other rust-prone areas. Rust control makes your car last longer and will save money.

With today's higher prices for everything from auto insurance to gasoline, most of us are watching our spending.

We may not be able to buy a new car every three or four years, which is where rust control can help. Having your vehicle sprayed annually may well double its lifespan, saving you thousands of dollars. Here's how:

- Your car will last longer, delaying the need to buy a new one.
- If your vehicle is paid for and you keep it for 10 years, you can avoid years of car payments – a potential saving of from $20,000 to $40,000 or more.
- Maintenance costs are lower and your car looks better.
- Resale value increases.

"If you buy a vehicle and plan to keep it for more than four years, consider taking it to a reliable rust control business to be sprayed every year," suggests Freeman Young, president of Krown Rust Control Systems.

"And check to make sure that the process is environmentally safe and the technicians are properly trained."

After purchasing a house, a vehicle is probably the biggest item people ever buy, so it makes good financial sense to prevent rust from causing premature deterioration.

An annual rust control treatment for an average car costs about $110 before tax and does not void your manufacturer's warranty.

Ready for winter drive?

Preparing your vehicle is a must for cold days

Bone-chilling temperatures, snowstorms and icy roadways are just a few seasonal characteristics that have some Canadians considering relocation when winter hits. And while there is not a lot that can be done to help those that despise the cold weather, the hassle of preparing your vehicle can be made a lot easier with a few winter-fighting tips from experts.

DO:

• Get rid of the lightweight blues (washer fluid, that is). Some plain blue washer fluids don't add up to much more than water and a little bit of solvent, so they can freeze on your windshield when the temps go south.

Instead, convert your first tank of summer wash to winter wash by topping off with de-icing windshield washer. It can clear light ice, improve driving visibility and help prevent dangerous refreeze.

• Change your oil. Motorists that travel short trips of less than 10 miles when outside temperatures remain below freezing should follow a severe maintenance oil-change schedule. While the recommended change interval is 5,000 to 8,000 kilometres, a severe schedule may require more frequent oil and filter changes.

You should consult your owner's manual to learn the interval schedule that works best for your vehicle, and be sure to use a more premium filter.

• Fight the freeze-over. If you are not a huge fan of the exercise that goes into excessive scraping, windshield de-icer spray with a scraper top can quickly help melt frost and ice fast, as well as help reduce dangerous refreeze.

• Prepare for the worst. It could be devastating if you get stranded in cold temperatures. Carry an emergency kit that includes a cellphone, spare jacket, blanket, extra gloves, scarves and water for yourself, and extra fluids for your car.

"Prepare for the worst ... Carry an emergency kit that includes a cellphone, spare jacket, blanket, extra gloves, scarves and water ... and extra fluids for your car."

DON'T:

• Mix hot and cold. Pouring hot water on cold glass to clear your windshield could crack it. Consider spraying your car's windows with ice- and frost-blocker. When sprayed on the night before, the formula imparts a barrier on the glass, thus reducing the adhesion of the ice and frost to the windshield and other glass surfaces, making it easier to clear ice from the windows.

• Leave your gas tank on empty. During the winter, it is important to keep your gas tank at least half full. Filling up your tank helps decrease the chances of moisture forming in the fuel lines and possibly freezing.

Winter tires a solid investment

SAFETY After sampling winter, summer and all-season tires back-to-back on the same roads, season-specific tires are always the right choice. And avoiding a fender-bender can more than pay for a set of winter tires. Plus, your summer rubber doesn't accumulate kilometres during the winter and vice versa, therefore extending their life almost by half.

Nigel Mortimer, head of recalls for Transport Canada and a veteran Formula Ford racer, gives a reason that makes a lot of sense.

"If four good winter tires are installed, the traction differential between winter and summer roads is less than if the same tires are used all year," says Mortimer. "Cold all-season tires have far less traction than cold winter tires due to the rubber composition of the tire tread."

In other words, in cold conditions, winter tires allow handling characteristics to be more similar to performance tires than all-seasons do. And, as winter roads can change every metre, ensuring predictable handling is just as important as outright grip.

Tires marked with the pictograph of a peaked mountain with a snowflake meet specific snow traction and severe snow condition requirements. Tires marked M + S (mud and snow tires), also known as all-season tires, will provide safe all-weather performance, but fall short in severe snow conditions. In addition, M+S tire requirements are guidelines and involve no actual testing to receive the M+S designation, while winter tires must meet performance requirements.

To ensure safety while driving in winter, invest in four winter tires.

As for two winter tires as opposed to four, Mortimer has done extensive tests with all types of vehicles and comes to one conclusion: Don't put just two winter tires on a vehicle.

"It's unsafe whether you put them on the drive wheels or the steering wheels," says Mortimer. "Especially with anti-lock brakes, traction control and stability controls, no number of electronics can overcome the laws of physics."

Again, the reason is to ensure the vehicle is predictable to drive. If you put winter tires on the steering wheels, the rear will have a tendency to fishtail or oversteer. If they're on the rear wheels, the car will understeer.

Also, winter tires improve grip so that your vehicle will rely less on its electronic systems for traction, in turn reducing stress on other components.

Experts say the first snowfall is often the most dangerous since people have not adapted their speed and driving ability to winter conditions.

Staying safe on treacherous roads

DRIVERS Most winter accidents are caused by human error. The accident inspectors say that the first snowfall is often the most dangerous since people have not adapted their speed and driving ability to the winter conditions — often losing control and spinning sideways into an oncoming vehicle or stationary object.

So find an empty parking lot or safe place to practice your winter driving skills — or lack thereof. As long as you're not doing hundreds of doughnuts, the local police shouldn't mind.

Anyway, the reason for finding a parking lot is simple: Do you really know how your car handles in the winter?

Think about how you react in a panic stop. Do you jump on the brakes? Try that. Try stopping from the same speed with gradual pressure on the brake pedal. Then try turning and braking at the same time.

Pay attention to how the car reacts — or doesn't react — to your commands.

"With today's cars the warning is more subtle than the old rear-wheel-drive cars that did not have traction control and stability control," says Nigel Mortimer, head of recalls for Transport Canada.

"For example, a front-wheel-drive car or an all-wheel-drive vehicle will not fishtail when the tires spin. You have to listen for the tire spin, or watch the speedometer needle suddenly jump, or feel the suddenly lifeless steering to realize that the tires are sliding.

"Even simply braking early for a stop sign will allow you to test the limits of traction in that area before you really have to be stopped."

After all, it's better to feel a sliding car when you don't have two kids in the back while bearing down on a busy intersection.

New drivers or drivers who aren't confident motoring during the winter should consider a winter driving course. Most schools across the country range from under $200 to over $600, available in one- or two-day iterations.

Awareness

• By gradually increasing your winter driving skills, you can quickly pick out which drivers to avoid, and with winter tires, you'll have a better chance of avoiding collisions and maintaining control.

5-Door SE model shown, MSRP $16,270

The new incredibly fuel-efficient **2009 PONTIAC G3 WAVE.** That's right. No matter what you're driving right now, you're probably spending more time with the gas pump than you want to. Maybe you need to start hanging around with a G3 Wave. With 5.7L/100 KM on the highway and 7.9L/100 KM in the city[1], it's certainly not going to strengthen your relationship with the gas pump, but honestly, what did that old pump really do for you, anyway? The G3 Wave, on the other hand will give you an auxiliary audio input jack, five star rating for frontal impact[2], available side-impact airbags, optional OnStar® and the best coverage in Canada[3]. So go ahead, break old pumpy's heart. And never look back. **Cash Purchase Price at $10,995.***

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Journeying with Dodge

2009 Journey a spacious yet affordable CUV option

MARK ATKINSON
for Metro Canada

The new-for-2009 Journey is Dodge's answer to the entry-level crossover segment. There will be four versions of Journey when it hits the ground in late February, all generously equipped: SE Canada Value Package, SE Plus, SXT and R/T.

There's a palpable sense of pride and excitement when you speak with folks from Chrysler about their company and upcoming products. However, with two of those disappearing products being the made-in-Canada Pacifica and Dodge Magnum, Chrysler needed a non-minivan people-mover.

So, the new-for-2009 Journey is Dodge's answer to that increasingly popular — and profitable — entry-level crossover segment. Aimed straight at the Toyota RAV4, Hyundai Santa Fe, Kia Rondo, Mazda5 and others, on paper the Journey is a typical five- or seven-seat, unibody chassis CUV with four- or six-cylinder power in either front- or all-wheel drive. Easy, right?

Well, yes. But what Journey really does is give Dodge a real shot at respectability, going head-on into a section of the market virtually dominated by the Japanese and Korean manufacturers.

The basis for the Journey is the tried-and-true Avenger platform, although the wheelbase has been stretched 124 mm to accommodate that optional third row, while it sits 53 mm higher. However, overall length only grows 43 mm, meaning a reasonably compact size. All models get independent suspension and four-wheel disc brakes.

There will be four versions of Journey when it hits the ground in late February, all generously equipped: SE Canada Value Package, SE Plus, SXT and R/T.

Power comes straight from Avenger as well, meaning either a DOHC 2.4-litre VVT four-cylinder World Engine producing 173 hp @ 6,000 rpm and 166 lb-ft @ 4,400 rpm (SE Canada Value Package, SE Plus) or the SOHC 3.5-litre V6 with 235 hp @ 6,400 rpm and 232 lb-ft @ 4,000 rpm (SXT, R/T). The only transmissions available are automatics: a four-speed on the four-cylinder and a six-speed on the six. Front-wheel drive is standard, although an intelligent electronic all-wheel drive system that can split power up to 40:60 front to rear is optional on SXT and R/T.

2009 Dodge Journey

Type: Crossover
Price: $19,999-$27,595
Engine: I4, DOHC, 2.4L/V6, SOHC, 3.5L
HP: 173 @ 6,000/235 @ 6,400

Highlights

- Affordable
- Seats seven
- Spacious

Fuel economy is competitive as well, with the entire range featuring a 7 per cent improvement versus a comparable 2007 SWB Caravan.

Regardless, Dodge can claim the 'clever' moniker for its recent interior designs, and the Journey follows the same path. Storage bins abound in the second-row floor wells, under the passenger seat and, of course, the dual glove boxes with the Chill Zone beverage storage. Rear cargo room is generous as well, with a tri-fold floor covering hidden bins to stash valuables away from prying eyes.

While there are still some plastics that you can bruise a knuckle on, the overall interior presentation is immensely improved.

Sensitive to criticism garnered from the quality, materials and fit of its recent interiors in the Patriot/Compass/Caliber triplets and the Sebring/Avenger sedans, the Journey is an impressive step forward for Chrysler Corp. While there are still some plastics that you can bruise a knuckle on, the overall presentation is immensely improved. The dash angles towards the front of the vehicle, giving a better sense of space, while the large windows and relatively low beltline provide plenty of visibility. The gauges are crisp and clear, all the controls fall right to hand, and you'd be hard pressed to find many injection-molding seams as in previous Dodge offerings.

One other neat trick is the optional third-row seating, which is being made available across the line as a $1,175 option, bringing with it air conditioning with three-zone temperature control. All seats, including the front passenger's, can fold perfectly flat without needing to remove any headrests.

Toyota opens new technical campus in Michigan

RESEARCH Toyota has announced its Technical Center (TTC), a division of Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing North America, Inc. (TEMA), has opened a campus in York Township, Mich.

The new campus will handle TTC's product planning and engineering design operations, as well as serve as TMC's first collision-safety testing facility outside Japan.

TTC, which is based in Ann Arbor, Mich., and has served as TMC's North American vehicle research and development base since 1977, has invested $187 million US in the York Township campus. The campus, for which plans were announced in April 2005, will create a total of 400 additional jobs at TTC by the end of 2010.

TTC's Ann Arbor campus will continue to carry out evaluation activities, powertrain design and development, and research into materials and cutting-edge technologies.

TMC intends to continue striving to develop and offer products that suit regional conditions, and to meet customer needs.

Global research

- TMC has established bases in North America, Europe, Asia and Australia to carry out research.

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2009 COBALT LS

2009 Cobalt SS Coupe 1SA (with 29U) model shown, $25,725 MSRP excluding freight.

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- Standard ABS & StabiliTrak™ electronic stability control system
- Standard air conditioning & power windows/locks/remote keyless entry
- 25.2 cubic feet (638L) of flexible cargo volume & a fold-flat front passenger seat
- 2.2L ECOTEC 4-cylinder engine with 155hp

★★★★★ FIVE-STAR FRONTAL CRASH TEST RATING◊

DRIVE 1048km HWY ON ONE TANK OF GAS HWY: 4.3 L/100km /66 MPG CITY: 9.2 L/100km /31 MPG▲

2009 AVEO5

$9,995† CASH PURCHASE PRICE Dealer order may be required.

2009 Aveo 5-Door LS 1SA (with options UE1 and PG9) model shown, MSRP $14,710 excluding freight.

DRIVE 789km HWY ON ONE TANK OF GAS HWY: 5.7 L/100km /50 MPG CITY: 9.3 L/100km /36 MPG▲

- The redesigned 2009 Chevrolet Aveo5 has even better fuel consumption than last year.■
- 1.6 L ECOTEC 4-cylinder engine with 106hp
- Five-star frontal crash test rating◊

★★★★★ FIVE-STAR FRONTAL CRASH TEST RATING◊

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New level of performance

Ralliart badge boosts power, handling of 2009 Galant

JIM ROBINSON
for Metro Canada

Mitsubishi is expanding its lineup again by adding a Ralliart to the 2009 Galant mid-size sedan model.

The Ralliart badge on a Mitsubishi signifies that it has been given additional performance features to enhance power, ride and handling.

Mitsubishi started humbly here in Canada just six years ago with cobbled-together cars and trucks that were already well into their product cycle.

But that changed two years ago with the introduction of the Outlander SUV and the Eclipse sportscar. Recently the very high-performance Lancer Evolution 10 GSR and MR debuted and now there is a Ralliart version of the Galant for those who want more than just A-to-B driving in their lives.

The 2009 Mitsubishi Galant is offered in three distinct trim levels: Galant ES, Galant GT and Galant Ralliart.

The entry-level Galant ES is powered by a 2.4-litre, SOHC, four-cylinder engine producing 160 hp and 157 lb/ft of torque. The front wheels are driven through a standard four-speed Sportronic automatic transmission with sequential shift mode.

The 2009 Galant GT features a 3.8-litre, SOHC V6 producing 230 hp and 250 lb/ft of torque with a standard five-speed Sportronic automatic also with sequential shift mode.

Then we come to the Ralliart that takes the Galant nameplate up into the level of high-performance sports sedans.

2009 Mitsubishi Galant

Type: Mid-size sedan
Price: $32,998
Engine: 3.8-litre DOHC V6
HP: 258 hp

Highlights

- Fast
- Large cabin
- Well-equipped base model

With a base price of $32,998, power comes from the same 3.8-litre DOHC V6 found in the Eclipse GT-P sportscar and gives the Galant Ralliart an acceleration time of zero-to-100 km/h in about seven seconds.

In the Ralliart, the 3.8-litre V6 produces 258 hp and 258 lb/ft of torque at 4,500 rpm, making it one of the most powerful import brand sport sedans in the segment.

The interior of the Galant Ralliart features special touches like aluminum trim on the centre stack and the pedals.

This is accomplished in part by the Mitsubishi Innovative Valve Timing Electronic Control system (MIVEC) which helps optimize power and engine efficiency across a broad engine speed range.

Energuide fuel consumption ratings are 12.9L/1100 km city and 8.1L/100 km highway.

Like the GT, the V6 is matched to a five-speed Sportronic automatic transmission that enables manual shift control by the driver when desired.

To enhance the driving experience, the Ralliart features its own, higher-rate springs and dampers, and is exclusively equipped with a 21-mm rear stabilizer bar, and its P235/45R18 tires are mounted to 18 x eight-inch 10-spoke aluminum alloy wheels.

The big Mitsu 3.8-litre V6 is a well-known quantity and has the punch of a small V8. To get the maximum from the Ralliart, using the sequential shift mode lets you take advantage of the low-speed torque characteristics of the 3.8-litre, while being able to hold it in gear longer to put all those 258 ponies to work.

A MacPherson strut front suspension system attaches to a sub-frame with a large, rigid cross member for responsive handling and less noise.

Students can snap away for photo contest

BRIDGESTONE So, you want to be a professional photographer? Here's your chance to create the magic and win a cash prize.

Bridgestone Firestone Canada Inc. is giving Canadian post-secondary students the chance to showcase their talent behind the lens in the seventh-annual Bridgestone Photo Contest.

This year's contest, which began on Sept. 2 and runs until Dec. 1, is expected to attract a record number of students.

Students registered in photography programs at 13 universities or colleges across Canada are participating in the contest, with a total of $42,000 in prize money up for grabs.

For each school, the top three images submitted will win a cash prize of $1,500 (first place), $1,000 (second place) and $500 (third place).

Judges will also select two national winners from among the first-place finishers, including one grand prize ($2,000) and one special mention ($1,000). In addition to the prize money, students will see their work exhibited on the Bridgestone Photo Contest website and at popular race events.

This year's three-judge panel will conduct the judging of the photos during December and January. Judges are chosen from the fields of professional photography, automotive photography and automotive journalism.

For more information go to www.bridgestone-firestone.ca.

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2008 Saturn ASTRA™ 5-door XR model shown

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2008 SATURN VUE XE

HWY - 7.5 L/100 KM (38 MPG)° CITY - 11.0 L/100 KM (26 MPG)°

OWN FOR ONLY $278* PER MONTH 0%Δ PURCHASE FINANCING FOR 60 MOS.

FINANCE PURCHASE PRICE STARTING FROM $24,590‡

Excludes hybrid models

2008 Saturn VUE® XR model shown

2008 SATURN AURA XE

HWY - 6.5 L/100 KM (43 MPG)° CITY - 9.6 L/100 KM (29 MPG)°

OWN FOR ONLY $258* PER MONTH 0%Δ PURCHASE FINANCING FOR 60 MOS.

FINANCE PURCHASE PRICE STARTING FROM $22,340‡

Excludes hybrid models

2008 Saturn AURA® XR model shown

2008 SATURN OUTLOOK XE

HWY - 8.3 L/100 KM (34 MPG)° CITY - 13.0 L/100 KM (22 MPG)°

CASH PURCHASE PRICE STARTING AT $27,635§

INCLUDES A $7,000 CASH DELIVERY ALLOWANCE‡ ON THE CASH PURCHASE OF ALL 2008 OUTLOOK MODELS.

2008 Saturn OUTLOOK® XR model shown

THE SATURN PROMISE

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COURTESY TRANSPORTATION AND ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE^
NO-HASSLE EXPERIENCE | 30-DAY VEHICLE EXCHANGE†

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†The 2008 vehicle's Powertrain components are covered by a limited Powertrain component warranty for up to 5 years or 160,000 km, whichever comes first. See Retailer for details and conditions on limited warranty and customer assistance/service features. ¶Coverage for up to 5 years or 160,000 km, whichever comes first. ‡Within the first 30 days or 2,500 km of delivery, whichever comes first. You should know this: "Cash purchase price is $27,635 for a 2008 Saturn OUTLOOK XE FWD, includes a $7,000 cash delivery allowance available on all 2008 OUTLOOK models. Such allowance is available only for cash purchases, and by selecting finance offers, consumers are foregoing such credit which will result in higher effective interest rates. §"Freight ($1,300/$1,200/$1,250/$1,220) on a 2008 Saturn ASTRA 5-Door XE/2008 Saturn VUE XE/2008 Saturn AURA XE/2008 Saturn OUTLOOK XE not included. Taxes, licence, insurance, registration, administration fees, fees associated with publication/filing at the movable property registry/PPSA, duties, and optional equipment extra. PDI included. Retailers are free to set individual prices. Retailer trade may be necessary. Offers apply as indicated to new 2008 Saturn ASTRA 5-Door XE with manual transmission, 2008 Saturn VUE XE, 2008 Saturn AURA XE or 2008 Saturn OUTLOOK XE models (excluding hybrid models) and apply to qualified retail and eligible fleet customers in the Ontario Marketing Association Area only. See your Retailer, visit saturncanada.com or call 1-888-4SATURN for conditions and details. ΔΔFinancing on approved GMAC credit only. Down payment, trade or security deposit may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. Example for a representative credit agreement: $10,000 at 0% APR, the monthly payment is $167 for 60 mos. Cost of borrowing is $0. Total obligation is $10,000. A monthly payment of $186/$278/$258 is based on a finance purchase price of $16,150/$24,590/$22,340 for the 2008 Saturn ASTRA 5-Door XE/2008 Saturn VUE XE/2008 Saturn AURA XE and includes a $4,250/$7,900/$6,850 down payment (finance purchase price reflects $1,750/$2,500/$2,000 manufacturer-to-retailer incentive, available only with GMAC financing). Financing offer applies to qualified retail and eligible fleet customers only and is not available on hybrid models. ΔFuel efficiency data was determined using approved Transport Canada test methods. ^On approved GMAC credit only. See Retailer for details. ▼With purchase of virtually all 2008 new or demonstrator models delivered from Retailer stock between October 8, 2008 and October 31, 2008, and with payment of an additional $0.01, customers receive a Preferred Price™ gas savings card, redeemable for $0.20 per litre savings on 2,500 L of motor fuel. The $0.20 savings includes applicable taxes. Cards valid as of 72 hours after delivery. Cards valid only at participating Petro-Canada locations (and other approved North Atlantic Petroleum locations in Newfoundland) and not redeemable for cash. All 2008 Saturn vehicles are eligible. GM reserves the right to amend or terminate this offer and/or the program for any reason, in whole or in part, at any time without notice. ♦Donated vehicles must be licensed and insured for the previous consecutive 6-month period. For eligibility requirements, visit carheaven.ca. ‡‡Let Saturn Canada make your first two finance payments. £Subject to credit approval. Offer applies to qualified retail customers only. Offer ends December 31, 2008. Offer applies to the first two consecutive monthly payments on eligible new Saturn vehicles financed through GMAC. Offer applies to the principal portion of the monthly payment only. Offer is not applicable to lease payments, GMAC insurance products, taxes, licence, registration, administration fees, fees associated with publication/filing at the movable property registry/PPSA, duties, optional equipment extra, PDI, down payment, trade or security deposit. Offer is not available on hybrid models. Offer is not available in conjunction with any other offer. See Retailer for details. ΔΔFinancing on approved GMAC credit only. Down payment, trade or security deposit may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. Example for a representative credit agreement: $10,000 at 0% APR, the monthly payment is $167 for 60 mos. Cost of borrowing is $0. Total obligation is $10,000. 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Offer is not applicable to lease payments, GMAC insurance products, taxes, licence, registration, administration fees, fees associated with publication/filing at the movable property registry/PPSA, duties, optional equipment extra, PDI, down payment, trade or security deposit. Offer is not available on hybrid models. Offer is not available in conjunction with any other offer. See Retailer for details.

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Ford's big brake-through

New safety technologies being launched through 2009

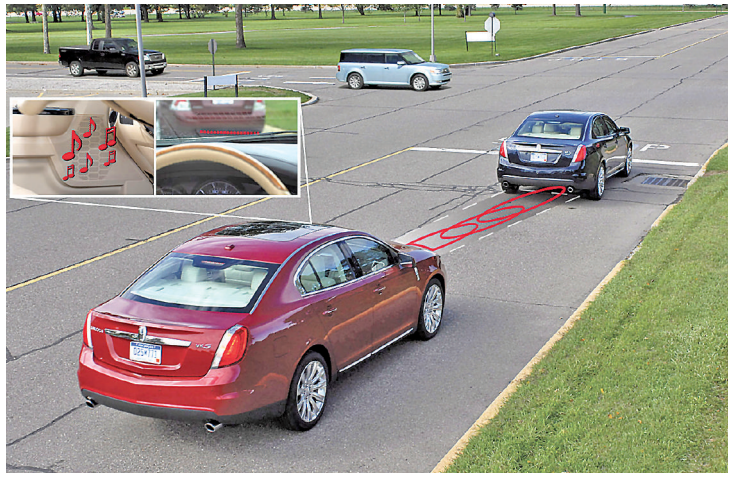
Ford will offer a new advanced "active" collision-avoidance technology, Collision Warning with Brake Support, on certain Ford and Lincoln vehicles next year.

Collision Warning with Brake Support uses radar to detect moving vehicles directly ahead.

When the danger of a collision is detected, the system warns the driver with an authoritative beep and a red warning light projected on the windshield above the instrument panel.

The system also automatically pre-charges brakes and engages a brake-assist feature that helps drivers quickly reach maximum braking once the brakes are engaged.

Collision Warning with Brake Support is one of three new radar-based active safety and driver-aid technologies Ford is launching across a range of vehicles in 2008 and 2009.



One of a slate of new technologies, Ford will offer a new advanced "active" collision-avoidance technology, Collision Warning with Brake Support.

The others are Adaptive Cruise Control, launched this year, and BLIS (Blind Spot Information System) with Cross Traffic Alert, which debuts in 2009. All three features use radar to detect the relative position of other vehicles and warn the driver with a combination of visual and audio alerts.

Collision Warning with Brake Support builds on the basic function of Adaptive Cruise Control, a driver-assistance feature that Ford introduced on the 2009 Lincoln MKS. Adaptive Cruise Control uses radar to detect moving vehicles immediately ahead and modify cruising speed if necessary.

Research indicates that Collision Warning with Brake Support could be particularly helpful in warning a driver who is distracted or drowsy.

BLIS with Cross Traffic Alert can help provide extra confidence to drivers in parking lots by alerting drivers sooner of nearby traffic while backing out.

It uses two multiple beam radar modules, which are packaged in the rear quarter panels. The radar detects moving objects within a 65-foot range from either side of the vehicle.

The radar identifies when a vehicle enters the defined blind spot zone and illuminates an indicator light on the corresponding side-view mirror providing a warning that a vehicle is approaching. An audible alert is sounded as well.

NHL, Honda sign 3-year deal

AGREEMENT Honda Canada Inc., American Honda Motor Co., Inc. and the National Hockey League have entered into a three-year agreement naming Honda as the official vehicle of the NHL.

Elements of the agreement include Honda sponsorship of NHL television and Internet coverage, along with active participation at NHL events in both Canada and the United States, such as the NHL Winter Classic and the NHL All-Star Weekend.

"Hockey is the national sport of Canada from coast to coast," said Jerry Chenkin, executive vice-president of Honda Canada Inc. "This NHL sponsorship aligns well because of a variety of grassroots sponsorships and activities that are already being done by our Honda dealers."

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HONDA
†Limited time financing offers based on new 2008 Honda models. Finance example based on new 2008 Element LX 2WD, model YH1738E available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. MSRP is $25,290 plus $1,540 freight and PDI financed at 0.9% APR equals $457.47 per month for 60 months. Cost of borrowing is $618.26 for a total obligation of $27,448.26. Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. Retailer may sell for less. Retailer order / trade may be necessary. ¥Cash purchase savings will vary from model to model; $5,000 / $5,000 / $4,500 / $7,000 cash purchase savings apply to 2008 Accord Sedan EX-L V6 Navi and Coupe EX-L V6 Navi, models CP3689KN, CS2188KN, CS2289KN only / 2008 Element SC, models YH1798E and YH1898E only / 2008 CR-V EX-L and EX-L Navi, models RE4878JN and RE4878KN only / 2008 Odyssey EX-L, EX-L RES and EX-L Touring, models RL3868J, RL3878J and RL3888K only. Cash purchase savings - a combination of rebates and other dealer incentives - will be applied as follows: on Accord Sedan EX-L V6 Navi and Coupe EX-L V6 Navi models, $3,000 before taxes, $2,000 after taxes; on Element SC models, $5,000 before taxes; on CR-V EX-L and EX-L Navi models, $3,500 before taxes, $1,000 after taxes; on Odyssey EX-L, EX-L RES and EX-L Touring models, $5,000 before taxes, $2,000 after taxes. Other cash purchase savings available on other select 2008 Honda models. See Mississauga Honda for details. †¥Offers valid from October 1st, 2008 through October 31st, 2008 at Mississauga Honda. Offers subject to change or cancellation without notice. See Mississauga Honda for full details. ΩYou may be eligible for the Government of Canada's ecoAUTO Rebate Program. 2008 Civic models with 1.8L engine and manual transmission qualify for a $1,000 rebate. Visit www.ecoaction.gc.ca for more information.

DRIVE THE FUTURE

Civic Sedan DX
model FA1529EX

2009 CIVIC DX

See Into the Future
Civic's two-tier instrument panel gives you a clear view of important information while letting you concentrate on the road.

NEW FOR '09 FEATURES INCLUDE:

- *Redesigned Front Bumper*
- *Reconfigured Headlights & Taillights*
- *Chrome Panel between Taillights*
- *New Colour Combinations*

PLUS...

- *1.8L 140hp 16-Valve SOHC i-VTEC® 4-Cylinder Engine*
- *Advanced Compatibility Engineering™ (ACE™) Body Structure*
- *6 Airbag System*
- *160-Watt AM/FM/CD Audio System with MP3/Windows Media® Audio Playback Capability...and more.*

$16,990 MSRP‡

LEASE FOR	APR
$198#	@ 5.9%£

PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS WITH $3,232 DOWN ON APPROVED CREDIT.

GO FURTHER IN A CIVIC

DISTANCE PER TANK◊	TANK CAPACITY
926km	50 litres
City: 7.4L/100km	38mpg*
Hwy: 5.4L/100km	52mpg*

◊ Approximate distance based on highway mileage

ALL-NEW 2009 FIT

Fit Is Cavernous
With class leading 1,622 litres of cargo space and one-motion dive-down Magic Seat,® the Fit will gobble up most anything you throw in it.

ALL-NEW FOR '09 FEATURES INCLUDE:

- *1.5L 117hp 16-Valve SOHC i-VTEC® Engine*
- *Advanced Compatibility Engineering™ (ACE™) Body Structure*
- *1,622 Litres of Cargo Space*

PLUS...

- *6 Airbag System*
- *4-Wheel Anti-Lock Braking System (ABS) with Electronic Brake Distribution (EBD)*
- *Power-Assisted, Ventilated Front Disc and Rear Drum Brakes*
- *160-Watt AM/FM/CD Audio System...and more.*

Starting from **$14,980** MSRP‡

GO FURTHER IN A FIT

DISTANCE PER TANK◊	TANK CAPACITY
727km	40 litres
City: 7.1L/100km	40mpg*
Hwy: 5.5L/100km	51mpg*

◊ Approximate distance based on highway mileage

"...the cargo area behind the rear seats... class-leading..."
CanadianDriver.com – September 2008

Fit Sport
model GE8789E

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HONDA

#Limited time lease offer based on new 2009 Honda models. Lease example based on 2009 Civic Sedan DX, model FA1529EX, available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. £5.9% lease APR for 48 months. Monthly payment is $198 with $3,232.35 down payment or equivalent trade, $1,310 freight and PDI, first monthly payment and $0 security deposit due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $14,392.08. Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. 96,000 kilometre allowance, charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. Retailer may lease for less. Retailer order / trade may be necessary. #/£ Offers valid from October 1st, 2008 through October 31st, 2008. Offers subject to change or cancellation without notice. See your Honda retailer for full details. ‡MSRP is $16,990 / $14,980 for a new 2009 Civic Sedan DX, model FA1529EX / Fit DX, model GE8729E. $1,310 / $1,310 freight and PDI, license, insurance, registration and taxes are extra. MSRP of Fit Sport model shown, model GE8789E is $19,280. Retailer may sell for less. Retailer order / trade may be necessary. See your Honda retailer for full details. *Civic mileage based on 2008 Fuel Consumption Guide rating published by Natural Resources Canada. Fit Mileage based on data compiled by Honda Canada. These estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. The actual fuel consumption of these vehicles may vary. Refer to the Government of Canada's EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide for more information. Based on 2009 Honda Fit with 1.5L engine and automatic transmission. Based on 2009 Civic with 1.8L engine and manual transmission. Visit www.vehicles.gc.ca for more information.

Malibu's winning formula

Luxurious style and fuel-efficiency make for one great combo

JIM ROBINSON
for Metro Canada

North American Car of the Year! It's been quite a while since Chevrolet could boast that honour, but that's just what happened in January when the 2008 Chevrolet Malibu was named North American Car of the Year at the international auto show in Detroit.

To do that, Malibu had to not just match but surpass its deadly rivals, the Toyota Camry and Honda Accord.

Taking a platform engineered by its German subsidiary, Opel, it ladled in the looks, didn't mess with the European-generated ride and handling and then came up with not one but four Malibus aimed at four different audiences.

The base Malibu LS has a starting price of $22,995. The LT package begins at $24,895 and the top of the line LTZ comes in at $33,610. In addition, the Malibu Hybrid model at $26,995 is the most affordable hybrid system on the market.

Malibu offers two punchy yet fuel-efficient dual overhead cam engines, including a standard 169 hp (160 lb/ft of torque) 2.4-litre Ecotec DOHC four-cylinder engine that delivers 9.6L/100 km in the city and 6.5L/100 km on the highway. The topline engine is a 252 hp (251 lb/ft)) 3.6-litre DOHC V6 with variable valve timing that delivers 12.2L/100 km in the city and 7.8 L/100 on the highway. The Malibu Hybrid model is powered by a 2.4-litre Ecotec engine/electric motor (164 hp, 159 lb/ft) and achieves 8.5L/100km in the city and 6.2L/100 on the highway.

Right now the four-cylinder engines have a four-speed automatic and the V6 has a six-speed automatic. Later this year, the topline LTZ will be available with a four-cylinder engine in addition to the six-speed automatic making that a first in the mid-size segment and something long-distance commuters should love because it combines all the amenities of a luxury car with frugal gas consumption.

The style story starts with the exterior. Visually, the new Malibu looks more substantial than the previous model with the Chevy bowtie logo integrated nicely into the new "family" one-bar grille. Interestingly, there are no less than 12 "bowtie" badges on the exterior, some obvious, others small and discreet like on the headlight bulb reflectors.

All Malibus come equipped with ABS, traction control, tire pressure monitor, six standard airbags and StabiliTrac (GM's version of pitch and yaw control) on all but the base version.

Malibu also comes with OnStar with the Directions and Connections feature. Directions provides turn-by-turn voice and monitor screen directions to anywhere.

The LTZ tested here is as good as most of the vaunted European sports sedans and not surprisingly so, as it is based on the Opel Vectra that is no slouch on the autobahns. Its engine and six-speed automatic with Tapshift sequential manual shift mode is the same as the Cadillac CTS. Drivers can select manual mode which features paddles mounted on the steering wheel.

On the highway, the six-speed goes through the gears so smoothly, you don't feel it. I've noticed before on other GM products with this engine/transmission that on cruise especially, you don't have the sensation of the gearbox dropping down a gear while the engine roars away to maintain whatever speed you have chosen in cruise.

The LTZ lists at $33,610 and is loaded with standard features like the two-tone leather, XM free for three months; OnStar for a year, 18-inch alloy wheels and the list really does go on. The only options on the car as tested were the power sunroof ($1,195), premium paint ($380) and rear 110-volt power point and rear retractable sunshade ($325) for a total of $38,860 including a $1,250 shipping fee.

This is one car readers will have to see in the flesh and drive to get a better picture.

The 2008 Malibu is a giant step forward for Chevrolet, bringing it from just another player in the mid-size sedan segment to one of the leaders by offering more standard content at competitive prices.

2008 Chevy Malibu

Type: Mid-size sedan
Price: $33,610, as tested
Engine: 3.6-litre DOHC V6
HP: 252 hp, 251 lb/ft

Highlights

- Won 2008 North American Car of the Year
- Luxury interior
- Frugal fuel consumption

Like the exterior, the Malibu has shed its humdrum interior look for an almost twin cockpit look.

Dodge Charger gives more power to police

The new 2009 Dodge Charger police car is ready to patrol the streets with the ultimate in pursuit power, the new-generation 5.7-litre Hemi V8 engine.

The new engine will give the good guys more horses under the hood and even better fuel economy.

With the new 5.7-litre Hemi, the 2009 Dodge Charger is the most powerful production police vehicle on the road, producing 368 hp and 395 lb/ft of torque.

The 2009 Dodge Charger is the only police vehicle that offers best-in-class performance in four key pursuit categories: available power, acceleration, top speed and vehicle dynamics.

With a fuel economy rating of (US) 16 city/25 highway, the new Hemi engine also gets up to 20 per cent better fuel economy with the addition of fuel-saving Multi-Displacement System (MDS) technology, which deactivates four of the eight cylinders when less power is needed while cruising.

The 2009 Dodge Charger police car comes standard with a five-speed automatic transmission with AutoStick(R) mated to a powerful, 3.5-litre High-Output V6 engine that provides 250 hp and 250 lb/ft. of torque, offering an outstanding blend of performance and fuel economy of also (US) 16 city/25 highway.

The Dodge Charger police vehicle was designed from the ground up in order to meet the needs of law enforcement agencies.

Police-specific features include greater stability and improved handling achieved through a "wheels-to-the-corners" design; performance-tuned steering and suspension; convenient shifter mounted on the instrument panel to make room for police equipment in the center console area; police interior lighting shines white to illuminate the interior and red for use with night vision equipment; heavy-duty seats accommodate fully equipped officers; and a spacious trunk.

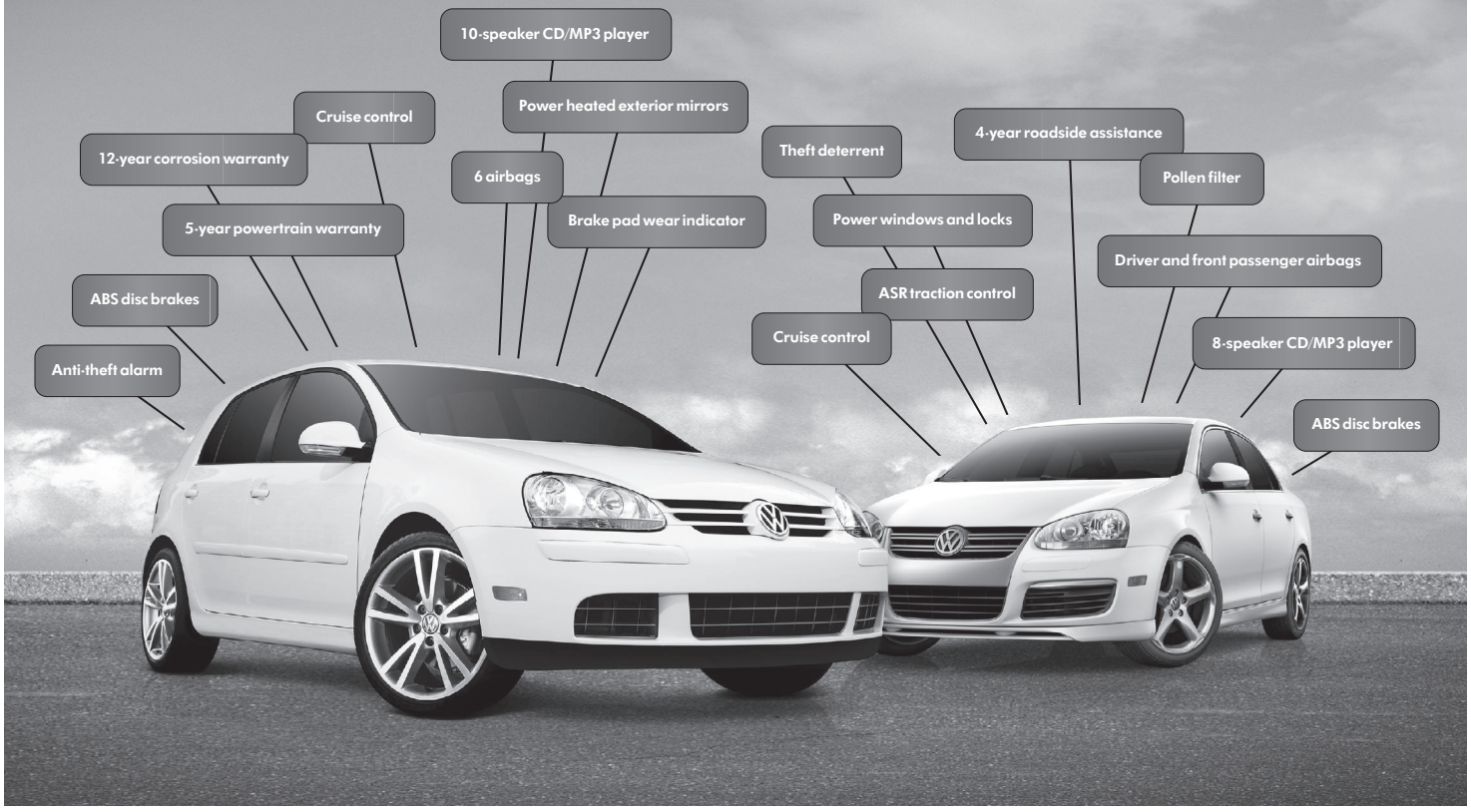
The Dodge Charger police vehicle comes equipped with Electronic Stability Program (ESP), a segment exclusive that includes Anti-lock Brake System (ABS), All-speed traction control, Yaw Sensor and Steering Angle Sensor. ESP electronically detects and automatically assists drivers in critical driving situations, including adverse conditions.

New 2009 Dodge Charger police car gives the good guys 368 horses under the hood.

Porsche, Corvette top green test

RACE A world debut only ever happens once. And these will be the names to be remembered as the inaugural winners of the Green Challenge at the American Le Mans Series' signature endurance race, the Petit Le Mans at Road Atlanta held recently: Porsche and its Penske RS Spyder team of Pat Long, Sascha Maassen and Emmanuel Collard, and GM/Chevrolet and its Corvette Racing team of Johnny O'Connell, Jan Magnussen and Ron Fellows. They earned the first ever Green Challenge trophies in their respective prototype (Porsche) and GT (Corvette) classes. Each had the best score in class for overall performance, fuel efficiency and environmental impact.

Loads of standard features.
Das included.



Rabbit
Lease from
$239 per month* **5.9%** APR
$19,975 MSRP**

Jetta 2.5
Lease from
$299 per month* **5.9%** APR
$21,975 MSRP**

Fuel consumption†

Rabbit		**Jetta 2.5**	
City L/100 km	**10.7**	City L/100 km	**10.8**
Highway L/100 km	**6.9**	Highway L/100 km	**6.9**

Das whoa. That's a lot of features. And while they might all be standard, let's be clear — the Volkswagen Rabbit and Jetta 2.5 are anything but. It only takes a few seconds behind the wheel of these German-engineered icons of the autobahn to see what 2.5 litres, 170 hp and 177 lb-ft of torque feels like. Das whoa indeed. Combine this with all the fun-to-drive and European styling you'd expect from a Volkswagen, and you've got loads of reasons to visit your local dealer (or visit vw.ca).

Das Auto.

$750 rebate for recent graduates††

*Limited time lease offer on approved credit available through Volkswagen Finance, a division of VW Credit Canada Inc. MSRP of $19,975/$21,975 and 48-month lease offer apply to new and in stock 2009 Rabbit / Jetta 2.5, base model with 5-speed manual transmission. Freight and PDI of $1,335, PPSA, license, insurance, registration, dealer charges, options and applicable taxes are extra. Monthly payment is $239/$299 at 5.9% lease APR with $2,309/$1,832 down payment. $290/$350 security deposit, PPSA and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation of $13,781/$16,184. $0.12/km over 80,000 km charged at lease end. **MSRP of $19,975/$21,975 for a 2009 3-door Rabbit / Jetta 2.5 with manual transmission. Freight and PDI of $1,335, PPSA, licence, insurance, registration, dealer charges, options and all applicable taxes are extra. MSRP of 2009 3-door Rabbit shown is $26,310 with body kit and 18" alloy wheels. MSRP of Jetta 2.5 sedan as shown with accessories is $32,310. Dealer may sell/lease for less. At participating Volkswagen dealerships only. Offer ends October 31, 2008 and is subject to change or cancellation without notice. Supplies limited. Visit vw.ca or your Volkswagen dealer for details. †Transport Canada fuel consumption figures are estimates only. Your fuel consumption may vary. ††$750 rebate for recent college or university graduates. Certain conditions apply. "Volkswagen", the Volkswagen logo, "Rabbit" and "Jetta" are registered trademarks of Volkswagen AG. © 2008 Volkswagen Canada.

Plugging into future

Chrysler LLC recently announced that its ENVI organization will have new production-intent, advanced electric-drive technology packaged in three different vehicles.

There will one for each of its brands, Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge.

Chrysler will select one electric-drive model to be produced in 2010 for consumers in North American markets, and European markets after 2010.

Additionally, approximately 100 Chrysler electric vehicles will be on the road in government, business, utility and Chrysler development fleets in 2009.

The company said that it is well into the development of advanced, production-intent electric vehicles, and that it will apply electric-drive technology to its front-wheel-drive, rear-wheel-drive and body-on-frame four-wheel-drive platforms in the next several years.

At its world headquarters near Detroit, Chrysler showed three electric-drive prototypes, Dodge EV, Jeep EV and Chrysler EV, and demonstrated the driving performance and capability of each.

The development of Chrysler's Electric Vehicles and Range-extended Electric Vehicles is led by ENVI, representing the first four letters of "environmental," the Company's in-house organization that was formed to focus on electric-drive production vehicles and related advanced technologies.

Chrysler's Electric Vehicles utilize just three primary components.

These include an electric motor to drive the wheels, an advanced lithium-ion battery system to power the electric-drive motor, and a controller that manages energy flow.

Supercar **Heart-stopping power (and price)**

Faster than a Bugatti Veyron and almost twice the price, this ultra rare, 1018 hp Koenigsegg CCXR Edition is now in production. Capable of catapulting its occupants to 100 km/h in just 2.9 seconds, the 4.8-litre V8 Koenigsegg CCXR Edition is the latest in a long line of supercars from the Swedish manufacturer. However, depending on your income, you might want to start saving since its high performance and exclusivity come with a heart-stopping price tag. It's yours for a cool (est.) $3 million.

20-plus debuts slated for L.A. auto show

Opening in less than a month, the 2008 Los Angeles Auto Show will feature more than 20 world premieres of production and/or concept vehicles from global automakers November 21-30.

To date, world debuts are confirmed from Buick, Cadillac, Ford, Honda, Hyundai, Infiniti, Lamborghini, Lincoln, Lexus, Mazda, Mercury, Nissan, Porsche and Volkswagen.

This year marks the third consecutive year that the LA Auto Show will take place in the fall rather than early January. With more than 20 worldwide debuts already confirmed for this year, it is apparent that the new show dates have increased the relevance of the LA show among automakers worldwide.

Some of the world debuts already confirmed for the 2008 LA Auto Show include Nissan's next generation Z and the highly anticipated redesign of the legendary Ford Mustang.

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Wednesday Doorcrasher!

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Tues: 10-6
Weds: 10-8
Thurs: 10-8
Frid: 10-8
Sat: 10-6
Sun: 11-5

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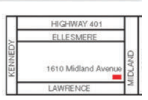

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2009 FROM $31,498**
KING CAB SE 4X2 SWB MODEL SHOWN†

ALTIMA 2.5 S
2009 FROM $22,698**
3.5 SE MODEL SHOWN†

PATHFINDER S
2009 FROM $36,298**
SE MODEL SHOWN†

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*On all 2009 models. Compared to MSRP for 2008, same model. **MSRP for a 2009 Murano 3.5 S AWD (L6RG19 AA00), CVT transmission/ 2009 Altima Coupe 2.5 S (T2RG59 AA00), manual transmission/ 2009 Xterra S 4x4 (8CLG59 AA00), manual transmission/ 2009 Armada LE-V8 4x4 (7CTG79 AA00), automatic transmission/ 2009 Altima Hybrid 2.5 S (T4HG19 AA00), CVT transmission/ 2009 Rogue 2.5 S FWD (W6RG19 AA00), CVT transmission/ 2009 Versa Hatchback 1.8 S (B5LG59 AA00), manual transmission/ 2009 Frontier King Cab XE 4x2 (2KLG59 AA00), manual transmission/ 2009 Maxima 3.5 SV (U4SG19 AA00), CVT transmission/ 2009 Titan King Cab XE 4x2 (1KAG79 AA00), automatic transmission / 2009 Altima Sedan 2.5 S (T4RG59 AA00), manual transmission/ 2009 Pathfinder S 4x4 (5CRG79 AA00), automatic transmission. †$47,498 MSRP for a 2009 Murano LE AWD (L6SG19 AA00), CVT transmission/ $29,798 MSRP for a 2009 Altima Coupe 3.5 SE (T2SG59 AA00), manual transmission/$36,398 MSRP for a 2009 Xterra SE (8CSG79 AA00), automatic transmission/ $30,698 MSRP for a 2009 Rogue SL AWD model w/Premium Package (Y6SG19 BK00), CVT transmission/ $16,498 MSRP for a 2009 Versa Hatchback 1.8 SL (B5RG59 AA00) manual transmission/ $31,798 MSRP for a 2009 Frontier PRO-4X King Cab (4KVG59 AA00), manual transmission/ $39,950 MSRP for a 2009 Maxima 3.5 SV w/Sport Package (U4SG19 SP00), CVT transmission/ $35,098 MSRP for a 2009 Titan King Cab SE 4x2 SWB (1KCG79 AA00), automatic transmission / $29,498 MSRP for a 2009 Altima Sedan 3.5 SE (T4SG59 AA00), manual transmission/ $40,698 MSRP for a 2009 Pathfinder SE 4x4 (5CSG79 AA00), automatic transmission. Destination and PDE charges ($1,500)/ ($1,400)/ ($1,500)/ ($1,550)/ ($1,400)/ ($1,500)/ ($1,325)/ ($1,440)/ ($1,425)/ ($1,450)/ ($1,400)/ ($1,500, license, registration, insurance, duties and applicable taxes (including excise tax and fuel conservation tax, where applicable) are extra. All prices are subject to change without notice. Retailer may sell for less. ‡1.9% purchase financing for up to 60 months available only on 2009 Altima Sedan and 2009 Rogue models. Finance Example for a 2009 Rogue 2.5 S FWD (W6RG19 AA00): $23,798 MSRP, financed at 1.9% APR for 60 months equals $354.89 per month with $5,000 down payment. Cost of borrowing is $995.47 for a total obligation of $26,293.47. Up to $84 PPSA, $1,500 freight and PDE, license, insurance registration and taxes are extra. Finance offers available on Nissan vehicles on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance. Retailers are free to set individual prices. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles may require factory order. Offers available for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers.

U2 signs new deal with Live Nation

U2 could earn more than $850 million US after signing a new contract. The rock band has made a 12-year deal with promoters Live Nation, which will entitle them to 1.56 million shares in the company worth around $17 million. **FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK**

Entertainment

Nobel Scarlett

Actress Scarlett Johansson is to co-host this year's Nobel Peace Concert, which singer Diana Ross will headline in Oslo, Norway, on Dec. 11. **BBC NEWS ONLINE**

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

top DVDs

• The most popular DVDs according to Rogers Video for the period ending Oct. 19.

DVD RENTALS

1. Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull
2. The Happening
3. You Don't Mess With the Zohan
4. Iron Man
5. Forgetting Sarah Marshall
6. War Inc.
7. 88 Minutes
8. Sex and the City: The Movie
9. Run Fat Boy Run
10. Made of Honor

DVD SALES

1. Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull
2. Iron Man
3. The Happening
4. You Don't Mess With the Zohan
5. Sleeping Beauty (50th Anniversary)
6. Sex and the City: The Movie
7. Forgetting Sarah Marshall
8. Young People F—ing
9. Russell Peters: Red, White and Brown
10. Robot Chicken: Season 3

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Movie sequels abound

RICK McGINNIS
Metro Canada

A year or so ago, I told the host of a CBC radio program that I thought there should be a rule obliging rock bands to break up after two albums — three if they could make a convincing case that their third album would be a fascinating but unprofitable failure that only made money after years of small but steady sales.

He was apparently scandalized, and it was a long time before I was invited back, but he was the only person who's ever disagreed strongly with my suggestion, and I've come to the conclusion that most people probably agree, though their feelings likely aren't as strong as mine.

In any case, it's a theory that bears application to almost any other creative endeavour, and to movies with what I can only call a pressing urgency.

Summer was once supposed to be sequel season, but those days seem quaint now, as sequels spread throughout the year, and have leapt out of genres such as horror and action to colonize the whole of the movie industry.

The next few weeks, for instance, will see the release of High School Musical 3: Senior Year and Saw V, as well as the latest iteration on the venerable James Bond franchise.

But, before the year ends, theatres will be graced with the premieres of Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa, Transporter 3 and Punisher: War Zone. The new year already holds the promise of Clive Barker Presents: Hellraiser, My Bloody Valentine 3D, Underworld: Rise Of The Lycans and X-Men Origins: Wolverine among others.

Saw V, out this Friday, is just one of the movie franchise additions planned for the next few months.

Even if the public at large could, as one, express their wish that the sequel deluge should stop, it has taken on a dynamic that defies mere physics, like perpetual motion or cold fusion.

Steven Spielberg and George Lucas revived the Indiana Jones franchise last summer after nearly 20 years, though the film was met with cynical shrugs and reviews like the New York Times' full of phrases like "creative ennui" and "something of a bummer."

The sole defence for sequels that isn't purely fiscal is an essentially cynical one that films such as HSM3 and Saw V are products of original ideas that had sequel delivery written in their DNA.

A more creative defence is that sequels allow actors and audiences to explore characters and storylines at length and in depth has become almost irrelevant in light of the current renaissance of quality television, which is basically making movies many hours long, with huge casts and unprecedented development for even the most peripheral characters.

I am not someone who normally proposes excessive legislation or frivolous laws, but a moratorium on sequels, prequels or remakes might be necessary to shock Hollywood out of its creative palsy.

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Rogen mulls Ghostbusters 3 role
Seth Rogen will turn down the offer to star in Ghostbusters 3 if he is not impressed by the script. "That would have to be one motherf—ing good script," he says. IMDB.COM

Authors festival taps series on Irish scribes

RICK MCGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

While the talk everywhere else is of cutting back and tightening belts, the 29th annual International Festival of Authors is setting sail amidst a worldwide financial crisis with its largest ever slate of writers on display — 135 authors from 15 countries, a 30 per cent increase in talent since last year's festival.

"The festival has been growing every year," says festival director Geoffrey Taylor. "This year was a bit of a leap, and for the most part the planets were in alignment — the authors we were looking for were available. Often when you want author X to come and you call up, either they have a previous engagement or they're working on a new book, but this year everyone seemed to be available."

There are the marquee names from Canada — Neil Bissoondath, Rudy Wiebe, Josef Skvorecky and Farley Mowat, talking about what he says is his last book — and from abroad: Roddy Doyle, Lynda Barry, Richard Price, Anita Shreve and Francine Prose, among others.

Front and centre, though, is a featured series focusing on Irish authors, curated by Colm Toibin, who Taylor said decided on the Irish program despite being given a blank slate for whatever interested him. For his part Toibin — a former journalist whose novels have been shortlisted for the prestigious Booker Prize — says he wanted to showcase the peculiar qualities of Irish writing that have withstood the onslaught of global culture.

"There's a writer named Eugene McCabe coming," Toibin says. "And Eugene, it would be very hard to set his work anywhere but where it's set, which is the border between the north and the south in Ireland. You could certainly say he has a lot in common with certain Canadian writers, but it would be very hard to think of anyone in London, for example, with which he had anything in common. I'm not simply talking about local flavour — I'm talking about a whole set of imaginative principles that in Ireland are still local, and that won't fade over time, even with globalization.

"Even someone like Roddy Doyle, who would be famous all over the world, but there's certainly a sense when you read him in Dublin that he's writing for a Dublin audience. The vocabulary, for instance, and the wit, all of that seems to us very local. It might be appreciated by people all over the world, just as women all over the world might appreciate Margaret Atwood, but when you're reading her in Toronto, there's something very special."

The International Festival of Authors runs today to Nov. 1 at Harbourfront Centre.

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On November 17, James Blunt will become Metro's global Editor for a Day. You could be the lucky winner – and become his Editorial Assistant. You and a friend will get return flights, accommodation and will spend some time in helping James Blunt at the Metro office in Rome on November 7, 2008. Runners up will win a copy of James Blunt's latest CD.
Tell us why you should be the winner (maximum 250 words) and answer the question:
What year does James Blunt sing about on his album "All the lost souls"?
A) 1973 B) 1988 C) 1997
Send your answers to
www.metronews.ca/win
No purchase necessary. One entry per person. Contest open to Canadian residents of legal age. Contest closes October 25, 2008. Odds of winning depend on number of entries received. For full contest rules and details, visit www.metronews.ca.
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Molly Johnson's new album *"Lucky"* is available on iTunes October 28th and in stores November 11th

Sainte-Marie earns honour

Canadian Aboriginal artist Buffy Sainte-Marie will be honoured with the Lifetime Contribution to Aboriginal Music award at the 2008 Canadian Aboriginal Music Awards, to be held at the Rogers Centre in Toronto on Nov. 28. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Musician Cockburn's film sceening at fest

Planet in Focus turns lens on environment

Singer-songwriter Bruce Cockburn's journey to Nepal is the subject of a movie premiering at the ninth annual Planet in Focus film festival.

More than 100 environmentally focused films and videos will be screened at the festival running today to Sunday.

Return to Nepal, directed by Robert Lang, tracks the Ottawa-born Cockburn's trip to the country where he witnesses the effects of climate change.

The festival's spotlight program on food includes Michael Schmidt: Organic Hero or Bioterrorist, a look at the controversial Ontario dairy farmer and his legal troubles related to the production of unpasteurized milk. A panel discussion — In the Name of the Public Good? — follows the film.

Films dealing with displacement and migration include The Beggars of Addis Ababa, about women from northern Ethiopia; Paradise — Three Journeys in This World, about illegal migrants from Mali who come to Spain; and Eviction, about indigenous communities in Guatemala forced out of their ancestral land by the Canadian mining company Skye Resources.

The closing gala is Are There Still Any Shepherds? a Portuguese movie about a way of life that is in danger of fading away. The final day will also see the screening of Welcome Aboard Toxic Airlines, a British film that explores how passengers and crews may have been subjected to unfiltered noxious air in airlines for almost 50 years.

Films will be screened at Toronto's Royal Cinema, Gardiner Museum, Bata Shoe Museum, Innis College and the Royal Ontario Museum. THE CANADIAN PRESS

ANDREW STAWICKI/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE PHOTO

The film Return to Nepal follows singer/songwriter Bruce Cockburn witnessing climate change in Nepal.

Fashion Week by the numbers

BEHIND THE SCENES It takes a village to pull off L'Oréal Fashion Week.

The spring 2009 collections shown in the massive white tents in Nathan Phillips Square this week require:

40: L'Oréal Paris Beauty team members — 20 make-up artists and 20 hair stylists who will have about 20 minutes to make each model look great. And they'll go through 30,000 bobby pins, 60 cans of hair spray and 60 tubes of gel to do it.

300: Volunteers to work behind the scenes.

800: Models who will walk about 280,000 feet of runway.

240: Tubes of glistening lip gloss.

1,500: Garment changes by the time shows wrap up on Saturday.

10,000: Bottles of water for the parched throats of fashion critics.

32,000: Invitations that have been licked, sealed and delivered.

65,000: E-vite reminders that went out to media, buyers and spectators.

6,000: Metres of duct tape maping out various work stations on the floor.

With about 40 designer presentations this year, including shows on a new, second runway called The Studio, there will also be numerous boisterous afterparties.

And through it all, maybe even a model or two will be "discovered."

This week the Brill Communications staff, the official communications team, will send an estimated 8,000 walkie-talkie messages among themselves in an effort to control the "organized chaos."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

It's L'Oreal Fashion Week in Toronto

TODAY'S FASHION SHOW LINEUP AT NATHAN PHILLIPS SQUARE:

- 3 p.m.: Carlie Wong, presented by LG Canada
- 4 p.m.: Zoran Dobric
- 5 p.m.: Playdead Cult & Damzels in this Dress
- 6 p.m.: Evan Biddell
- 7 p.m.: Thien Le (BIO)
- 8 p.m.: Andy Thê-Anh
- 9 p.m.: Joe Fresh Style (BIO)

Evan Biddell

LOREALFASHIONWEEK.CA

2008 Governor General's Literary Awards finalists

Announced yesterday in the English-language fiction category (winners will be announced Nov. 18):

- Atmospheric Disturbances by Rivka Galchen, New York, originally from Toronto
- The Origin of Species by Nino Ricci, Toronto
- The Lost Highway by David Adams Richards, Toronto
- The Great Karoo by Fred Stenson, Cochrane, Alta.
- Cockroach by Rawi Hage, Montreal THE CANADIAN PRESS

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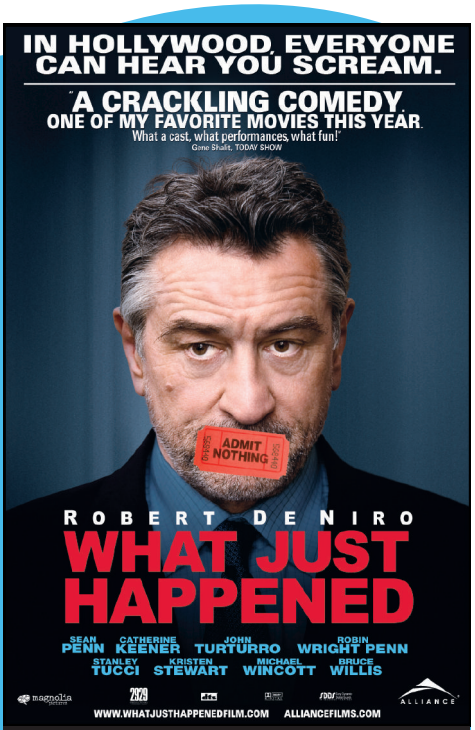

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metro Do it daily.

Beyoncé eats for Etta role

Beyoncé said it was "easier and tastier" to put on 15 pounds to play singer Etta James in the upcoming film Cadillac Records than lose it for Dreamgirls. PEOPLE.COM

Warhammer chips at Warcraft subscriber base

Four years after its launch, Blizzard Entertainment's World of Warcraft continues to dominate the field of massively multiplayer online role-playing games (known by the acronym MMORPG).

It's not for lack of competition; dozens of companies have tried to peel off some of the 10 million WoW subscribers, only to be stymied by technical problems, lack of polish and player attrition. Funcom's Age of Conan, for example, got off to a fast start earlier this year, only to be derailed by those problems.

The latest challenger is determined to avoid such issues. Warhammer Online: Age of Reckoning, the sword-and-sorcery fantasy developed by Mythic Entertainment and published by Electronic Arts, has already attracted 750,000 subscribers since its September debut.

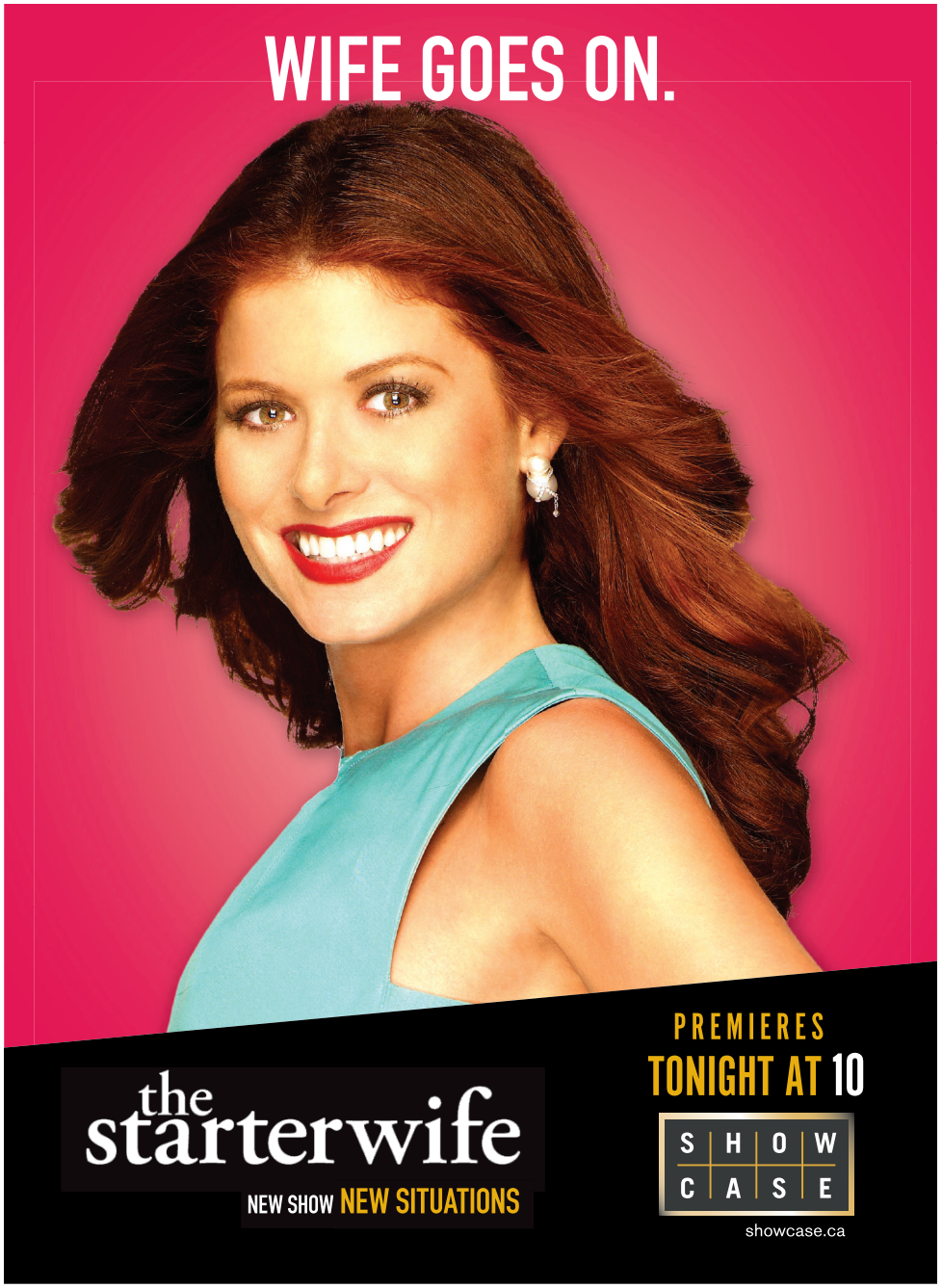
But Mythic co-founder Mark Jacobs said: "The launch is just the beginning. Even the first year is only a step."

"No MMORPG is ever ready to go out," Jacobs said. "These games are so complicated, you can never get it 100 per cent right." For a new online game to succeed, he said, players have to be "able to do everything it says on the box."

Warhammer executive producer Jeff Hickman said the goal is to "keep the momentum going," especially with the busy holiday season and a much-anticipated WoW expansion coming up. "We stay on top of what's going on, and we're going to keep expanding," Hickman said. "We care about what the players are saying. Our first two patches were about making players happy — within reason."

Creative director Paul Barnett said Warhammer is more than a computer game, it's a hobby. "And at 50 cents a day," he added, "it's the most cost-effective hobby in the digital age."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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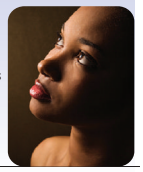

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Mary-Kate meets Samantha

Actress Mary-Kate Olsen will guest star on the episode of Samantha Who? airing Nov. 10 as Natalie, a troubled young woman Samantha meets in community service. E! NEWS ONLINE

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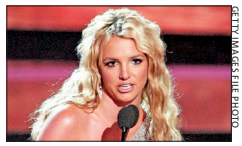
Judge declares Spears mistrial

Britney Spears' driver's licence case has been declared a mistrial.

A jury foreman announced that the panel failed to agree after four votes about whether the singer was guilty of driving without a valid driver's licence, a misdemeanour.

Jurors got the case Friday morning and the stalemate was announced yesterday.



GETTY IMAGES FILE PHOTO

Britney Spears

They deliberated for more than eight hours.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge James A. Steele thanked the jurors for their service and ended the trial.

A prosecutor did not immediately indicate whether Spears would be retried.

The 26-year-old singer faced jail time and a fine if convicted. She did not appear in court during the trial, which began last week. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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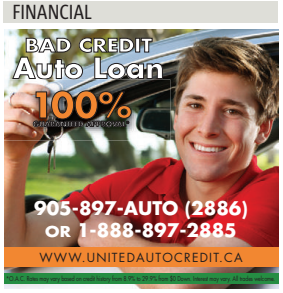

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Get me out of this rumour!
Former Desperate Housewives star Jesse Metcalfe has slammed rumours he is set to take part in British reality series I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here!, insisting he wouldn't participate in the "humiliating" show. IMDB.COM

Any life left on Mars?

IntelleVision

FREDERICK M. BROWN/GETTY IMAGES

Jason O'Mara stars in ABC's Life On Mars. The U.S. remake of the hit British show lost 25 per cent of the premiere audience with its second episode last week.

THE LIVING AND THE DEAD: No one is hiding the fact that pickings are slim on prime time this season, with reduced production and a paucity of scripts thanks to the writers' strike, which would explain why the networks are taking risks on shows that might otherwise have been in the slag heap in any other year.

Neither The Sarah Connor Chronicles nor Knight Rider have been anything like buzz shows this year; the former show has had good reviews but lukewarm ratings, and the latter has had neither, but they've both been given full season orders by Fox and NBC, their respective network homes. Both shows will get to film a full 22 episodes, though whether all of them will air, or be followed up, remains to be seen.

Broadcasting & Cable magazine's story on The Sarah Connor Chronicles notes that Fox also picked up Fringe, and CBS gave a full season order to The Mentalist. None of these shows have been burning up the wires with fan action or pulling in real numbers — not Idol numbers, not even first season Heroes numbers, even — and in normal circumstances the chop-happy Fox would have put them in the wood chipper, but there's nothing normal about the fall of 2008, is there?

Network panic over gutting what little they have on the schedule is, of course, the glass half empty interpretation of the season. The glass half full version is that audiences are being given a chance to discover shows, and producers have a chance to develop their stories and perhaps even a base of fans. This is a luxury increasingly rare in the last few years, where pilot overproduction has seen the networks treat their shows like the Soviet Army treated soldiers on the Eastern Front in WWII — cannon fodder, sent into battle with little expectation of survival, and an assumption that whoever made it out alive was tough enough to be sent into the meat grinder again.

I've been using ABC's Life On Mars as a yardstick for this TV season — a flawed and troubled production, perhaps even a bad idea to begin with, but one that exceeded (my admittedly low) expectations when it premiered.

The U.S. remake of the hit British show lost 25 per cent of the premiere audience with its second episode last week — a catastrophic drop that would have virtually guaranteed cancellation on Fox a year ago, though the Variety story made no mention of delayed viewing numbers on PVRs and TiVo, and Life On Mars is exactly the sort of show that would attract an audience uninterested in settling down in front of their sets like good little remote handlers.

If Life On Mars can survive a few more weeks of spongy numbers and perhaps even pick up an audience, it'll be a vindication of fate having forced to networks to play the waiting game, and an unanticipated plus for which the networks, producers and audiences can thank the Hollywood writers' strike.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

Entertainment in brief

TELEVISION The Oprah Winfrey Show is becoming bilingual. Chicago-based Harpo Productions says the show is being made available in Spanish through Secondary Audio Programming and closed captioning. The Spanish-language offerings launched Monday in the country's six largest Hispanic TV markets.

Oprah Winfrey

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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TO	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 10/22/08	265	353	2	TVO	Life in Cold Blood		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		The Fixer (Part 4 of 6) (N)		Human Edge American identity post 9/11.	
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Bones		NCIS "Nine Lives" (N)		Deep Wreck Mysteries	News (N)
	215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere III	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	210	302	6	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Little Mosque	Sophie (N)	CBC News: the fifth estate (N)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	214	344	7	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Secret Life of American Teen		Stylista "Pilot" (N)		Lipstick Jungle (N)		News (N)
	212	313	8	CTV	etalk	Hollywood	So You Think You Can Dance Canada			Big Bang Th	CSI: NY (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	218	345	11	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	Knight Rider (HDTV) (N)		Deal or No Deal (N)		Posh & Becks: THS		News (N)
	137	763	13	TFO	Panorama		Les Citadins du rebut global		*La Route des pastèques* (2006) Kresimir Mikic, Sun Mei.				Enfants
	-	-	14	-	Cold Case "Greed"		News (N)		News (N)		Two/Half Men	King	Cold Case
	213	326	15	SUN	Scrubs	George Lopez	*To Have and to Hold* (2006, Suspense) Justine Bateman.				To Serve and Protect		Grill Rm.
	-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Old Christine	Gary Unmarr	Criminal Minds (N)		CSI: NY (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Knight Rider (HDTV) (N)		Deal or No Deal (N)		Lipstick Jungle (N)		News (N)
	-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Pushing Daisies (N)		Private Practice (N)		(10:02) Dirty Sexy Money		News
	219	346	20	ACH-B	Robson Arms	TMZ (N)	America's Next Top Model (N)		Private Practice (N)		(10:02) Dirty Sexy Money		News (N)
	-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy (N)	Two/Half Men	MLB Baseball World Series Game 1 -- Philadelphia Phillies at Tampa Bay Rays.						The Simpsons
	-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	Vicar of Dibley	Secrets of the Dead		Independent Lens "Chicago 10" (N)				Business Rpt.
	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	America's Next Top Model (N)		Stylista "Pilot" (N)		CW11 News at Ten		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dr. Phil (HDTV) (N)		WBZ News (N)	'70s Show	Frasier	Frasier	Punk'd
	298	653	332	TLA	Jamie Foxx	Wayans Bros.	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Family Guy	Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Next Model
news	502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Newman	The Hour		CBC News: The National		Monarchy: The Royal Family		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		CNN Election Center		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79	CNB	Wall Street Crisis: Is Your Money Safe?				On the Money		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22	net	Sportsnet Con.	MLB Pregame	MLB Baseball World Series Game 1 -- Philadelphia Phillies at Tampa Bay Rays. (HDTV) (Live)						
	400	400	30	TSN	NHL Hockey Florida Panthers at Ottawa Senators. (HDTV) (Live)					SportsCentre		That's Hockey!	SportsCentre
	411	457	58	OLN	Ed's Up	Videos	The Amazing Race 13		Ed's Up	Adventures	Word Travels	Globe Guides	Pilot Guides
	417	406	81	SC	Pinks (HDTV)	Pass Time	Am. Thunder	Am. Thunder	Pinks (HDTV)	Pinks Outtakes	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pinks
family	551	542	25	YTV	Malcolm-Mid.	Home Improve.	Malcolm-Mid.	Fresh Prince	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Adrenaline Proj	Mystery Hnt.
	554	544	45	TEL	Albert-Hallown	Ghosts-Scooby	Ghosts-Scooby	6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	The Critic	Robot Chicken	Daughter-Devil
	556	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
cable variety	602	567	27	W	Will & Grace	Friends	Grocery	Maxed Out	Supersize vs. Superskinny (N)		Gok's Fashion Fix (N)		Style by Jury
	570	580	29	MM	Pimp My Ride	Pimp My Ride	Punk'd	Punk'd	PunchMuch		Justin Timberlake: FutureSex/LoveShow		
	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami "Bunk"		Dog the Bounty Hunter		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Parking Wars	Parking Wars	Parking Wars
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	La Figlia di Elisa Ritorno a Rivombrosa				Raymond	Raymond	George Lopez
	571	581	36	MMM	mmmtop	Popaganda		Back In	Listed		Brooke Knows	Revival	Party of Five
	575	583	38	CMT	Cheerleaders	Cheerleaders	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Coyote Ugly
	616	521	39	SHO	Kink in Hair	Kink in Hair	Durham County		Billable Hours	G-Spot	The Starter Wife (Series Premiere) (N)		
	620	523	40	BVO	Desperate Housewives		Berkeley	Bravo!Videos	Wingfield	Letters	Arts & Minds	The Achievers	Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	End of Leash	ET Canada	Last 10	Bulging Brides	Work Out "In the Mud"		Real Housewives of NYC		Last 10
	522	506	43	HIS	NCIS		Cities of the Underworld		The Real Donnie Brasco		NCIS		Crime Stories
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Comedy Inc.	RENO 911!	Daily Show
	600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Mansions	The Stagers	Property Virgin	Unsellable	Million Dollar Listing		Holmes-Homes
	294	529	47	TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	*Payback* ★★ (1999, Action) Mel Gibson, Gregg Henry.				Cheers	Family Guy	Family Guy
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park	Hip Hop Awd	*I Tried* (2007, Drama) Layzie Bone, Krayzie Bone.				Comic View	Comic View	Judge Karen
	627	528	50	SPC	Lost "Adrift"		Star Trek: Deep Space Nine		Battlestar Galactica		Ghost Hunters International (N)		Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52	MTV	Busted	After	MTV News	Cribs	Real World-Road Rules		Real World-Road Rules		MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	Beverly Hills, 90210		Reality	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	'70s Show	Family Guy
	603	561	56	FOOD	The Main	Chef at Home	Restaurant Makeover		Iron Chef America		Dinner Imposs.	Dinner Imposs.	Restaurant
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		Summer Wine	Dinnerladies	Darling Buds of May		Enigma		Hope Island
	621	527	63	STR	The Ellen DeGeneres Show		TMZ (N)	etalk	Paris Hilton's My New BFF		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		TMZ
	553	546	65	TRE	Wonder Pets	Nght Grdn	Friend Rabbit	Franklin	Little Bear	Miss Spider	Big Comfy	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears
	115	711	101	TVA	Occupation	Poule-oeufs or	Destinées (HDTV) (SC)		Les Soeurs Elliot (HDTV) (SC)		TVA 22 heures	(10:45) Denis Lévesque	
	126	730	102	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct sur l'économie		Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249	CLT	Judging Amy		*Short Cuts* ★★★ (1993, Comedy-Drama)				Mysterious Ways		Judging Amy
	300	601	301	M1	*The Diving Bell and the Butterfly* (2007, Biography)				*Children of Men* ★★★★ (2006, Science Fiction)				*Conspiracy*
	305	612	306	PIX	(7:15) *Blackout* ★★ (1978, Crime Drama)				*Reindeer Games* (2000, Crime Drama)			(10:45) *Yellowknife*	

critics'corner

Little Mosque on the Prairie
The anonymity provided by the Internet is a double-edged sword. On the plus side, nobody can tell who you are. On the minus side, you can't tell whom you're dealing with. Just ask Layla (Aliza Vellani), who registers Baber (Manoj Sood) with an online dating site. He meets someone, and they hit it off and agree to meet. Then Layla learns who Baber's cybercrush is and rushes to stop them from getting together in the new episode "The Ties That Bind." 8 PM on CBC

The New Adventures of Old Christine
Aw, c'mon, Dad. Showbiz is calling! In this new episode, a talent scout spots Ritchie (Trevor Gagnon) in a school play and offers him a chance to audition for a television commercial. Christine (Julia Louis-Dreyfus) thinks this is great, but Richard (Clark Gregg) is against it. Barry Livingston guest stars in "Self-Esteem Tempura." 8 PM on CBS

Craig turns down superhero role
James Bond star Daniel Craig has turned down the chance to portray Marvel superhero Thor on the big screen, saying it would be "too much of a power-trip" to play both 007 and Thor. IMDB.COM

Celebrity Buzz

Paris mulling London move

PEOPLE Socialite Paris Hilton loves life in London so much she is considering a permanent move to the English capital, imdb.com reports.

The hotel heiress is currently in the United Kingdom filming her new reality show, Paris Hilton's British Best Friend, and has been renting a house in London's fashionable Hampstead area.

Now Hilton has admitted that she is keen to move to the city full-time.

"I love it here. I am going to move here permanently," she tells British newspaper The London Paper. "I have already been here for one month and am much, much happier here."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Doherty opens up about private life

PEOPLE Shannen Doherty insists her reputation as an awkward actress is undeserved — she's just keen to keep her personal life troubles away from castmates and crew, imdb.com reports.

The actress was dubbed a wild child on hit 1990s TV show Beverly Hills, 90210 for showing up to work tired and moody, but now she says it was because she'd spent the night in hospital at her sick father's bedside.

Doherty's dad suffered a series of health setbacks during his daughter's tenure on the show, but she chose to deal with them privately, rather than approaching co-stars or producers for help.

"I'm very private about certain things, and my own castmates never knew about my dad and his medical problems," she tells Radar magazine.

"Nobody knew I was in the hospital till five in the morning and came straight to the set. People just thought, 'She's unprofessional.' Back then, you know, if I seemed moody, you try having a father be that sick and calling and saying, 'I don't think I can work today,' and being told, 'No, no, no. You're working or we're suing you.' It's brutal."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Colin shed 44 pounds for Triage film role

CAREER Colin Farrell lived on black coffee, Diet Coke and two tins of tuna a day to perfect a skeletal look on the set of new movie Triage, imdb.com reports.

The actor reportedly shed 44 pounds for the movie and admits his decision wasn't "healthy" or "advisable." He is said to have needed the caffeine just to get the energy boost to act.

"It was kind of depressing," he says. "For a short space of time, it was grand. It was just calorie counting wasn't a particularly healthy way of doing it."

Farrell insists it wasn't hard to put the weight back on: "I just ate like a pig."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Duchovny suing paper

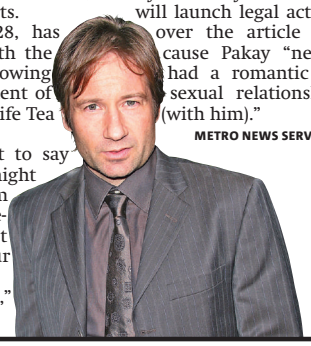
LEGAL David Duchovny is suing a British newspaper over allegations he had an affair with a tennis coach, imdb.com reports.

Edit Pakay, 28, has been linked with the X-Files star, following the announcement of his split from wife Tea Leoni.

"I don't want to say anything that might hurt David. I am not going to deny it. I don't know what our relationship means to him," she reportedly told the Mail on Sunday.

But Duchovny's attorney Larry Stein says the actor will launch legal action over the article because Pakay "never had a romantic or sexual relationship (with him)."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



celebrity briefs

Hogan's son released early

PEOPLE Hulk Hogan's son Nick Bollea has been released from jail early, imdb.com reports.

The former wrestler's son served just 166 days of an eight-month prison sentence for his part in a car crash in August last year that left his best friend,John Graziano with permanent brain injuries.

The 18-year-old pleaded no contest to a felony reckless driving offence in May, following the horrific accident in Clearwater, Fla.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Paltrow helps Madonna

RELATIONSHIPS Actress Gwyneth Paltrow has offered her friend Madonna her undying support as the pop superstar embarks on a divorce battle with husband Guy Ritchie, imdb.com reports.

The couple officially split last week and Paltrow insists Madonna only needs to pick up the phone and she'll be there for her.

"She's a dear friend, and I'm supporting her in all (the) ways that I can," Paltrow tells Us Weekly magazine. "I'm just here for her. I'm just here on the other end of the phone, really. I speak to her a lot."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

FameThrower

Joe O'Neill

Joe's take on celebrities

Can the city that survived the Blitz weather the onslaught of the perfect storm of vacuity? We may just find out, because **Paris Hilton** is threatening to move to London full-time. Bearing in mind that Paris makes pronouncements the same way celebrities with a modicum of talent make movies or albums, and that all of these statements should be taken with an grain of salt and a gram of Valtrex, isn't this a bit of a cruel blow to a city already reeling, as every major city in the world is, from an economic downturn?

I suppose Hilton is smart enough not to bite the hand that feeds her, unless that's what the sex tape script calls for, and the theme of her new reality show, if I may judge from the title, concerns finding her a best friend who is British. However, it's also possible that she feels so happy in London merely because she hasn't yet familiarized herself with British slang and has no idea words like "slag," "slattern," "tart" and "chippy" aren't complimentary.

Should Paris actually follow through on the move, I can't help but wonder whether she might upset the Trans-Atlantic Bimbo Balance, what with **Gwyneth Paltrow** and **Madonna** already living there.

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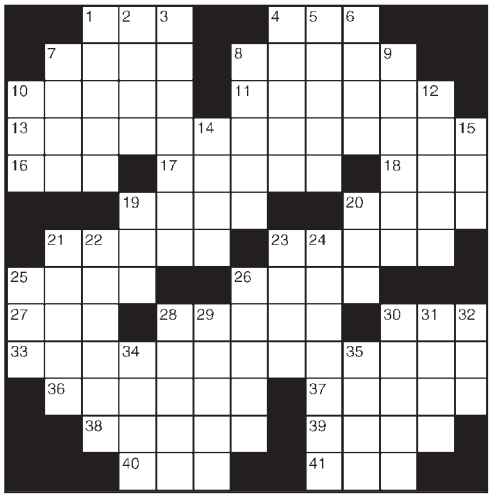
Today Mainly sunny 6° / 0°
Thursday Partly cloudy 10° / 2°
Friday Variable 12° / 7°

GIVES NEW MEANING TO "NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH."
NOW WITH REALLY, REALLY LOCAL WEATHER.

Take Five



Crossword across

1 Lawn moisture
4 Away from ENE
7 Pop flavor
8 First sign of spring?
10 Rags-to-riches author
11 Mythical sailor
13 One of a bridal quartet
16 Hot tub
17 Bet both ways
18 Chaps
19 Extra
20 They're often connected
21 Wed, commercially
23 Maestro Walter
25 Prohibits
26 Become a member
27 Italian article
28 Disdain
30 Evergreen type
33 A real humdinger
36 Copies, for short
37 Stern or Hayes
38 Minimum
39 Gripes constantly
40 Ram's mate
41 Astronaut Grissom

Crossword down

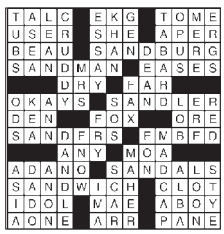
1 Definitive tenet
2 Gen. Robert —
3 Tusked African beast
4 Squeeze
5 Burn slightly
6 "Dragnet" star
7 Hoofbeat sound
8 Remark to the audience
9 Fish that goes upstream
10 Donkey
12 Because of
14 Command to Rover
15 Type measures
19 "— Robinson"
20 Bradstreet's partner
21 Estate home
22 Body's hardest substance
23 "— Free"
24 Tinnitus effect
25 Schoolkids' carrier
26 Supporting beam
28 Soda-shop item
29 Selected
30 UN display
31 "... — handsome does"
32 Fun and games
34 Duel tool
35 Jacob's brother

Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	8		5	4	3		2	
1								4
		3				9		
3	6		9		4		5	1
				3				
8	1		6		7		9	3
		8				4		
9								2
	5		2	1	9		8	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



9	2	8	1	5	3	7	4	6
4	7	1	9	6	2	3	8	5
6	5	3	4	8	7	9	2	1
5	6	7	3	2	9	4	1	8
2	8	9	6	4	1	5	7	3
1	3	4	5	7	8	2	6	9
7	1	2	8	9	5	6	3	4
3	4	5	7	1	6	8	9	2
8	9	6	2	3	4	1	5	7

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min.....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Recipe of the day

Quick steamed pork supper

INGREDIENTS:
¼ lb (280 g) even-sized new potatoes, scrubbed
6 oz (175 g) pork tenderloin
1 tbsp (15 mL) light soy sauce
1 tbsp (15 mL) dry sherry
1 tsp vegetable oil
2 tbsp (25 mL) fresh root ginger, peeled and finely chopped
1/2 tsp (2 mL) ground allspice
1 zucchini, cut into fine julienne sticks
1 red pepper, deseeded and thinly sliced
5 oz (150g) snow peas

METHOD:
1. Steam potatoes for 10 minutes. Remove and leave until cool enough to handle.
2. Trim fat from pork. Cut across into an even number of slices, each about ½ in. (1 cm) thick. Mix soy sauce, sherry, oil, ginger, allspice and pepper in a bowl. Add pork and toss to coat with the mixture.
3. Place 2 pieces of foil, each about 12 in. x 8 in. (30 cm x 20 cm) on work surface. Thinly slice steamed potatoes and spread out on half of each foil piece, leaving a border of at least 1 in. (2.5 cm) around edge. Arrange pork slices on top and pour over juices. Scatter zucchini and peppers on top.
4. Fold the other half of each foil rectangle over top and make small overlapping folds along edges to seal. Place foil parcels in the steamer basket and steam for 15–20 minutes, until meat and vegetables are cooked. About 4 minutes before the end of the cooking time, add snow peas to water in the pan under the steamer.
5. Transfer cooked parcels to warmed plates, open to reveal contents and serve with drained snow peas.

SERVES 2

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!
Reader's Digest ON CALL FOR YOU

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
You can stay in bed or you can get ahead. Don't be too timid to refuse a strategy change. A favour done for a friend will bring you money.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Your ethical actions will live on for years. Prepare to perk up this afternoon. A nonconformist should avoid caffeine and stop talking.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Your career luck is at the crossroads. A blonde knows who is really to blame. Be very serious when a fantasy romance takes flight.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Learn how to meditate when a meeting is boring. Show that you have what it takes to be frugal. Dreams about a duty will be tiring.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
It's time to congratulate other people. A buddy guides you through a secret conspiracy. Trust your instincts before getting involved.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
The distortion of facts creates new responsibilities. A moment of greatness will interrupt a trip. A hero will respond to messages.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
It's a good time to make an amusing statement. Someone who's just starting out goes for broke. An unusual program comes under review.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
A bold stranger comes your way tonight. Unleash the power of your daydreams. A friendship will charm and please you as it plays out.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
The power of positive thinking is shared with a family. You have to deal with a beautiful stranger. Pursue the meaning behind a comical tale.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
Someone wants to see you back down. Vexing frustration can lead to a comforting squeeze. A maternal figure muses about disorder.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Tolerate anybody wearing unusual clothes. Discuss an older woman with a busy buddy. Take a chance and do what has to be done.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
A troubled younger person will get a harsh lecture. A guilty companion throws her weight around. An ally is waiting for you to open up.

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Conditions apply. Ex:Toronto. Air only prices are per person for return travel unless otherwise stated. Package, cruise, rail & hotel prices are per person, based on double occupancy. Prices are subject to availability at advertising deadline and are for select departure dates. Prices are accurate at time of publication. Taxes are approximate & are subject to change. tts=transat. Head office address: 1 Dundas St. West Suite 200, Toronto, ON, CA, M5G 1Z3. Call for retail locations. ONT. REG #4671384 TICO

This day in history

OCT. 22, 1797: One thousand metres (3,200 feet) above Paris, André-Jacques Garnerin makes the first recorded parachute jump.
OCT. 22, 1924: Toastmasters International is founded.
OCT. 22, 1957: Vietnam War: First United States casualties in Vietnam.
OCT. 22, 1968: Apollo program: Apollo 7 safely splashes down in the Atlantic Ocean after orbiting the Earth 163 times.
OCT. 22, 1976: Red Dye No. 4 is banned by the US Food and Drug Administration after it is discovered that it causes tumors in the bladders of dogs. The dye is still used in Canada.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

Every answer is a rhyming pair of words (like FAT CAT and DOUBLE TROUBLE), and they will fit in the letter squares. The number after the definition tells you how many syllables in each word.

1. Columnist Landers' moving trucks (1)
2. Athlete's fish with a bagel (1)
3. Actress Shields trembled (1)
4. Put up for sale a strongbox (2)
5. Swaps razors' cutting edges (1)
6. More unesthetized leak fixer (2)
7. Musicians' platform heels-over-head maneuver (2)

ANSWERS
1. ANNE VANS 2. JOCKS LOX 3. BROOKE SHOOK 4. OFFER COFFER
5. TRADES BLADES 6. NUMBER PLUMBER 7. HANDSTAND HANDSTAND

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.

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With *Bank The Rest,* every time you pay with your Scotiabank debit card, your purchases are rounded up and the difference is transferred into a savings account. And when you open a ***Scotia One***™ account before November 2, 2008 and enrol in the *Bank The Rest* savings program, we'll match what you save up to $100. So when you spend, you save. And you save some more.

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2009 Sportage

REDESIGNED FOR '09

- 2.0L CVVT, or available 2.7L V6 engine
- Standard six airbags & 4-wheel ABS
- Standard Electronic Stability Control & Traction Control System
- AM/FM/CD/MP3 stereo with USB & AUX audio inputs
- Bluetooth® hands-free cell phone capability❖
- Power windows, locks and side mirrors
- Available all-wheel drive system

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2.9% LEASE APR*

$2,640 DOWN PAYMENT

★★★★★ 5-STAR CRASH TEST RATING

NHTSA - Frontal and side impacts††

HWY: 7.8 L/100KM 36 MPG
CITY: 10.3 L/100KM 27 MPG

LX model shown

WE PAY THE GST on all 2008 & 2009 Sportage models.

2009 Sedona

- 3.8L CVVT V6 engine
- 5-speed automatic transmission
- Standard six airbags & 4-wheel ABS
- Extended wheelbase
- Available Bluetooth® hands-free cell phone capability❖ and SIRIUS® Satellite Radio

LEASE FOR $299* PER MO. 48 MOS.

3.9% LEASE APR*

$2,040 DOWN PAYMENT

★★★★★ 5-STAR CRASH TEST RATING

NHTSA - Frontal and side impacts††

HWY: 8.8 L/100KM 32 MPG
CITY: 13.2 L/100KM 21 MPG

LX model shown

2009 Spectra

- 4-cylinder 2.0L CVVT engine
- Standard 6-way adjustable driver's seat with lumbar support
- AM/FM/CD/MP3 stereo with USB & AUX audio inputs
- Standard Bluetooth® hands-free cell phone capability❖
- 4-door sedan

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HWY: 6.2 L/100KM 46 MPG
CITY: 8.6 L/100KM 33 MPG

LX model shown

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MSRP for 2009 Sportage LX MT (SP5519)/2009 Sedona LX (SD7519)/2009 Spectra LX MT (ST5419) is $21,695/$26,745/$15,695. *Monthly lease payments for 2009 Sportage LX MT/2009 Sedona LX/2009 Spectra LX MT are $199/$299/$169 for 48 months at 2.9%/3.9%/2.9% lease APR with a $2,640/$2,040/$1,115 down payment. Total lease obligation is $12,210/$16,412/$9,248 with the option to purchase at end of term for $8,998/$11,188/$6,474. Payments or down payments include 3 free lease payments. Advertised lease payment and down payment for 2009 Sportage (SP5519) includes 3 free lease credits and GST rebate. Delivery and destination fees of $1,650/$1,650/$1,455 excluded. Lease has 20,000 km/year allowance (other packages available) and 0.10¢/km for excess. License, registration, insurance, dealer administration fees and taxes are excluded. Other lease and finance options also available. Dealers are free to set individual prices. Prices subject to change without notice. Certain restrictions may apply. ❖We pay the GST on all 2008 and 2009 Sportage models. GST for lease customers is calculated based on the vehicle lease obligation. Customer must pay GST at the time of purchase; Kia will reimburse customer the GST amount to be used on monthly or down payments. GST will not be reimbursed on additional options or equipment. See dealer for details. §3 Free Lease Payments up to a maximum amount of $1,950 (amount differs by model) available on all lease offers for new 2009 models Kia Canada pays for the first three lease payments or the customer can elect to apply the amount towards the down payment to reduce monthly payments. ❖"You Could Win Your Car" contest is open to all residents of Canada who are of the age of majority in the province in which they reside. Purchase or lease any new 2008 or 2009 Kia vehicle between October 1, 2008 and October 31, 2008 and be eligible to win your purchase. Visit www.kia.ca for full contest rules and regulations. No purchase necessary. >Highway/city fuel consumption for 2009 Sportage LX MT is 7.8 L (36 MPG)/10.3 L (27 MPG); 2009 Sedona LX is 8.8 L (32 MPG)/13.2 L (21 MPG); 2009 Spectra LX AT is 6.2 L (46 MPG)/8.6 L (33 MPG) per 100km. The actual fuel consumption of these vehicles may vary. These estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the Government of Canada publication EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide. †1-Green Score for Kia Spectra based on manual transmission specification within its segment. Refer to GreenerCars.org for full details. ††NHTSA (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration) test results. Visit www.safercar.gov for full details. ‡Conditions apply to the $500 Grad Rebate program, see dealer for details. ❖Late availability on Bluetooth hands-free option. ▼Kia's "Worry-Free Comprehensive" warranty covers most vehicle components against defects occurring under normal use and maintenance conditions. Bluetooth technology and SIRIUS® Satellite Radio available on select 2009 models. © 2008 SIRIUS Canada Inc. See dealer for details. Price, availability and specifications are subject to changes without notice. Some vehicles advertised may include optional accessories or after-sale equipment and may not be exactly as shown. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of print. Offer ends October 31, 2008 and is valid for residents of Ontario/Manitoba only. KIA is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.